San Francisco State
PHOENIX

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n the basement of the Old Science building huge metal drums contain toxic wastes waiting for ransport to Casmalia dump near Santa Barbara. Water marks that stain the wall above the floor-oards are evidence of the recent flooding. (Photo by John Howes.)

Where our toxins go

By Bruce Williams

The toxic chemical wastes generated by student and faculty activities in the Schools of Science and Creative Arts at SF State may be leaking into groundwater from a Southern California hazardous waste dump.

According to a report prepared by the Toxics Assessment Group in Sacramento, Calif., water samples indicate that toxic wastes are leaking from the Casmalia, Calif., toxic waste facility, the site which disposes of the university's hazardous wastes.

Safety violations at the dump have resulted in more than $135,000 in fines levied in the past year against Casmalia/Hunter Resources Inc., which owns the waste dump.

Toxic wastes being produced by the university and sent to Casmalia include solvents, organic chemicals, paint sludge, paint thinners, sulphuric acid, potassium cyanide and elements such as mercury.

All of these chemicals are considered "extremely hazardous waste" by state and federal agencies.

Exposure to many of the chemicals taken to Casmalia can cause cancer, birth defects, miscarriages and damage to the liver, kidneys and nervous system.

Casmalia has been overloading some of the 43 toxic waste ponds used to hold the potentially lethal liquid wastes it receives, said Dwight Hoenig, chief of the Toxic Waste Control Unit for the state Environmental Protection Agency.

The dump site is located on a 5,000-acre parcel in northern Santa Barbara County, approximately two miles north of the town of Casmalia.

According to the Toxics Assessment Group report, "Nowhere To Go," samples taken in November 1984 from wells on or near the site detected toxic contaminants, including benzene, trichlorethylene and chloroform. The three chemicals are used at least occasionally on campus.

The School of Science plans to spend $15,000 this year to have its dangerous wastes packed inside 55-gallon drums and moved by truck to Casmalia, according to Jerry Holst, supervisor of instructional support technology for the Chemistry department.

Science experiments by students and faculty will produce 60 to 80 drums of toxic wastes this year, said Holst.

The Creative Arts department spent $1,800 last year to dispose of its hazardous wastes, said Dan McGough, supervisor of instruc-

See Chemicals, page 16.

Toxic waste site: flood — and silence

By Bruce Williams

A hazardous waste storage area in the Old Science building was flooded "knee-deep" with water at least four times last month, according to a campus plumber.

A worker who waded through the potentially contaminated water said he is frightened about his health, but Henry Queen, Environmental Health and Occupational Safety officer, refuses to comment on the flooding incidents.

Warning signs required by state law (General Industry Safety Order 5209) have not been posted on the door outside Arts and Industry Room 123A, another hazardous waste storage site, where the department's toxic wastes are stored.

The signs were never posted because, "We don't want people starting a controversy where there isn't a controversy," said Dan McGough, supervisor of instructional supplies for the Creative Arts department.

However, warning signs have been posted at the storage site in the basement of the old science building.

Although the failure to put up warning signs outside hazardous waste storage sites could prove fatal to emergency personnel, such as firefighters trying to extinguish a blaze, Queen will not comment.

When asked whether SF State has any written policy regarding the handling and disposal of hazardous waste, Queen said, "No comment."

University officials responsible

See Access, page 16.

KSFS—the silent radio station

y Ross Larsen

When KSFS talks, no one listens. While many Bay Area broadcast-g students benefit from producing ve radio programs on the air, SFS, SF State's obscure radio sta-on, ambles along with a shoestring udget, ancient equipment, virtual-no audience and no frequency.

"It's really frustrating not to roadcast," said Program Director yler Phelps. "Students are less careful because a mistake isn't a mistake unless people hear it."

KSFS can't even be tuned in on the radio dial. It relies on irregular cable TV access for any contact with an audience. According to some KSFS personnel, even the cable arrangement is shaky.

Although College of San Mateo, University of San Francisco and Foothill Junior College have all been able to operate a functioning radio station, several attempts to make KSFS, a "real" radio station have failed.

One of the reasons is money. Station Manager Fred Ingles said the station's $5,700 budget is too small to buy modern equipment or gain broadcast status.

"KSFS is the stepchild of the broadcast department," said Ingles. "Most of the time and money goes to television, which is too bad

See KSFS, page 17.

SU chair defends admissions decision

y Barbara Cotter

Critics of a California State Uni-rsity plan to boost freshman ad-ission requirements say it will de-ease minority enrollment. But the gher standards are needed to en-re that all students, including mi-orities, succeed in college, says SU's Board of Trustees Chair oy Brophy.

"Everyone has to reach a set of andards," he said at a campus press conference Monday. "We're not denying access to minorities. We're denying access to the unqualified."

Critics of the plan, which include representatives of the California State Student Association, say fewer minority students will enroll in CSU under the new policy because many high schools serving mostly black and Latino students do not offer the required courses.

The new admission standards require freshmen applicants to have completed during high school four years of English, three years of math, two years of foreign language, one year each of lab sciences, history and government, visual and performing arts and three years of electives, before entering CSU.

Currently, freshmen need four years of English and two years of

See Brophy, page 11.

Home remedy for troubled kids

By Patricia McGoldrick

Sharon Anderson, an SF State social work major, earns her living at home, caring for a 10-year-old emotionally disturbed boy who would otherwise be institutionalized.

She and her husband, Tom, are one of eight families who make up San Francisco's Therapeutic Homes Program.

"As far as we know there is no program exactly like ours anywhere," said Christie Cooper, one of the program's two child welfare workers.

Since its establishment in 1981, the program has provided homes to 40 children who would otherwise live in group homes or mental hospitals.

Therapeutic foster parents are professionally trained to deal with children with serious emotional problems. Each home has a maximum of two foster children under 12 years of age. (Regular foster homes have as many as six children.) The therapeutic foster parent works with the foster child full time.

San Francisco's Department of Social Services began the program because "all the research and literature in the field of child welfare came to point to the fact that young children do poorly in residential programs or institutional care," said Cooper.

"They need a therapeutic setting, but they need it in a family setting

See Foster, page 16.

Sharon Anderson and her foster child. (Photo by Mary Calvert.)

ORIGINAL DEFECTIVE

AS Referendum

Fee increase may not dent deficit

By Paul Wolf

Despite the passing of an Associated Students referendum to increase the student activity fee from $10 to $15 per semester, $26,000 may be cut from AS services next spring.

The cuts may be necessary because the fee increase will probably not go into effect until the 1986-87 school year, and SF State President Chia-Wei Woo may require AS to pay off a $26,000 deficit by the end of the spring semester.

According to California State University laws, a referendum can only go into effect at the beginning of the academic year.

AS inherited the deficit from the 1984-85 administration of Ilda Montoya.

Whether the deficit must be cleared before the next fiscal year, which begins in July, is being discussed by AS and administration officials.

AS President Celia Esposito said the deficit probably won't need to be paid off until fall and any cuts in spring will be to prevent the deficit from growing as a result of her own administration's overspending.

But AS Treasurer Ramin Kianfar said if the fee increase doesn't go into effect until fall and the administration decides that the deficit must be paid off in the spring, significant cuts will be necessary.

Esposito said her administration started with a balanced budget this year without expecting the fee increase to pass or any revenues to come in the spring.

During Montoya's term, President Woo ordered AS to plan the future budgets based on only as much as AS would earn and said that AS could no longer take money from its Prior Years Reserve Fund to cover overspending.

But before his order, Woo approved a $50,000 transfer from the Prior Years Reserve Fund to cover unplanned spending of Montoya's administration. That $50,000 will not have to be paid back, said Don Scoble, associated vice president for business and finance.

The Prior Years Reserve Fund is money collected by the administration while the AS was closed during the strike years. The money was earmarked at that time for long-term investment to benefit AS.

Students, sex and abortion

By Gayle Passaretti

Her statement seems self-evident: "If you're having sex then birth control is something that goes along with it if you don't want to get pregnant."

But Lisa Frankfort, co-director of EROS, SF State's education and referral organization for sexuality, is earnest.

Birth control is something many students don't consider until faced with an unwanted pregnancy, she said.

Every month approximately 75 pregnancy tests are administered by the SF State Student Health Center. Of those, about 25 test positive, said Dr. Paul Scholten, director of the Health Center's Women's Services section.

Between 90 and 95 percent of those 25 SF State women opt for abortion. The Health Center does not perform them. Instead, women are given a list of several Bay Area women's health agencies that offer abortions, such as Planned Parenthood and Buena Vista Women's Services.

At the Student Health Center, pregnant women are informed of all their legal options.

"We never try to be judgmental about anything here," said Scholten. "It is not our legal or medical job to be pejorative."

If a woman is having difficulty coming to a decision about her pregnancy, or has mixed feelings after making a decision, then she can receive counseling from one of the Health Center's two part-time psychiatrists or six part-time psychologists. Three of the psychologists and one of the psychiatrists are women.

One-half of the women who receive positive pregnancy tests at the Health Center decide how to handle their pregnancies without professional counseling, said Scholten. Pregnant women are not automatically referred to counseling. If a woman doesn't request counseling, she won't receive any, he said.

Unwed women students who elect to carry the pregnancy to full term may be eligible for Medi-Cal assistance from the California Department of Social Services. Medi-Cal assistance is also available for abortions.

A student's newly found freedom often results in an increase in sexual activity.

Scholten is quick to point out that students can avoid unexpected pregnancy. He calls the method birth control.

"There is no specific way that we (Women's Services) aren't doing enough (education)," he said.

Although he admits "it takes two to tango," his explanation of why some students ignore contraception focuses on his area of expertise: women.

"Some psychiatrists have said that women feel guilty about sex and therefore don't want to be 100 percent certain. There are other (women) who say they are caught up with passion and even though they have a diaphragm, jelly or a condom, it's too much trouble. And there's a lot of wishful thinking," he said. "There are many reasons, but (with education) there really shouldn't be any."

Contraceptives sold at the Health Center cost about one-third of average San Francisco retail prices, Scholten said, but that "still doesn't seem to be making a dent" in the incidence of unwanted pregnancies on campus.

The Health Center offers videotapes and information on all types of birth control, including fertility awareness classes for women.

"I think the Health Center is responding really well to alternative birth control," said Lois Miller, director of the Women's Center, a campus organization in the Student Union. Fertility awareness, which can be practiced either to get pregnant or avoid it, does not use drugs or barrier devices. Many women use it because of religious reasons or "for fear of being used as guinea pigs" by medical researchers marketing contraceptives that have not been fully tested for long-term effects, she said.

The Women's Center and EROS provide brochures, referrals and campus seminars on birth control.

For many students, college is the first time away from home. A student's newly found freedom often results in an increase in sexual activity, said Frankfort.

"What should go along with that is a greater sense of responsibility," she said. "Birth control is still seen as primarily a woman's responsibility. (Often) men want to feel closer to a partner by becoming more involved in the process, which means more than sharing birth control. It means being (emotionally) involved with that person."

Cheaters face discipline chief

By Donna Kimura

He jokes that he doesn't want any business, but as coordinator of student discipline, Robert Westwood will probably be busy through January.

The end of the semester is a busy time for Westwood because final exams and terms papers mean an increase in the number of students caught cheating and sent to his Student Affairs office.

At this time last semester, Westwood had reviewed six cases. This semester, he has already seen 10 students and is working on five other cases, most involving students who looked at someone else's paper.

Punishment for someone caught cheating can range from probation to expulsion, said Westwood. He also handles sexual harassment cases, and cases involving disruptive behavior, which have also increased.

When a student is placed on probation or suspension, it is marked on the student's transcript until the student has completed his probation or suspension period. Expulsions, however, remain on record.

Westwood looks at more than just the offense a student has committed before he decides on a punishment.

"Every student has an individual case. I look at past record, see how they are doing and ask why they did it," said Westwood.

The majority of people who cheat are not doing well in school and are afraid to ask for help or are uninformed about tutoring and advising services available on campus, said Westwood. People who didn't do the work and feel they can get away with cheating are in the minority, he said.

The most common form of cheating is looking at another student's paper. Using notes is also a popular technique, he said.

"In reported cases, I have seen more business and science students. A lot of it could be the nature of the

See Cheating, page 17.

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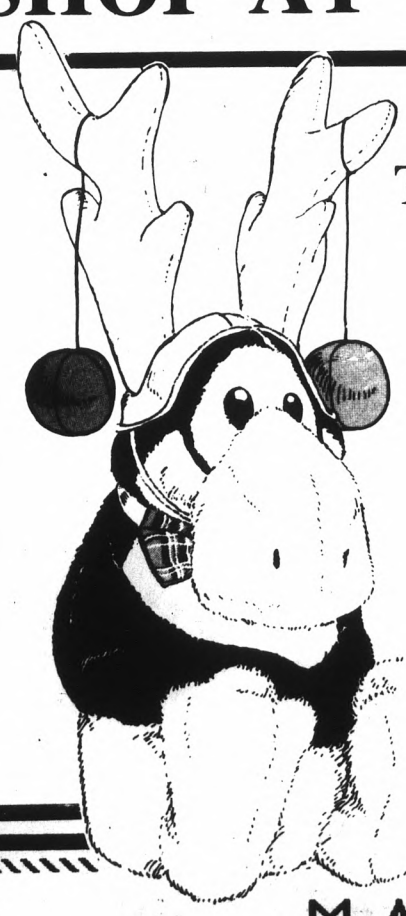

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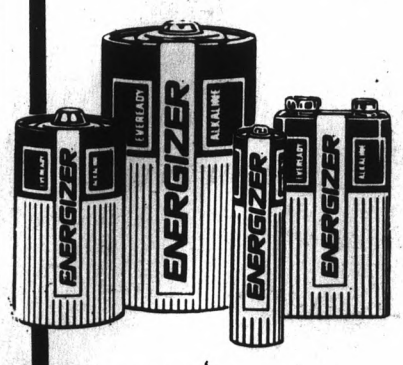

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FRANCISCAN SHOPS — MORE THAN A BOOKSTORE — STUDENT UNION

Vendors win lease extensions

By Ross Larsen

The Student Union's west alcove vendors scored a major victory when the Student Union Governing Board voted six to one to extend their leases without open bidding from outside vendors.

The leases were due to expire in December.

The vote on Nov. 21 did not reflect the divisiveness on the board. Board Chair Pamela Kossain and Student Union Managing Director Al Paparelli, who could not vote, opposed the extension, saying the vendors' 1983 contracts did not guarantee them an extension without bidding.

The resolution, written by Vendor Service Committee Chair Toni Stadlman, extended the leases of Touche, La Noisette and Mitchell Fruits until Dec. 31, 1987, at the current rent of $400 per month.

The three clothing stands in the alcove — The Cubicle, American Physical Fitness and De La Vida — had their leases extended for two-and-one-half years until June 30, 1988.

Stadlman stressed that the leases were extended but the 1983 contract, which he admits is vague and confusing, was not extended. The board will draft a new contract within the next few weeks, he said.

Part of the dispute centered around a portion of the vendors' 1983 contracts that doubled the vendors' rent in return for greater security. Before the contract was drafted, the vendors had to bid for the spots each semester.

The disputed portion reads: "This contract may be renewed without subjecting this space to bid upon the discretion of the Student Union Governing Board."

Stadlman and the vendors argued that this part of the contract entitled the vendors to renewal without open bidding "unless they really screw up."

While opponents of the extension agreed that the vendors have done a good job, many argued the vendors should conform to a California State University policy requiring open bidding every five years.

"How do we know that these places are in the students' best interest (without open bidding)?" asked board member Joachim Baum, who voted against the extension. "The Student Union is paid for by the students, so our responsibility is to them, not to the vendors."

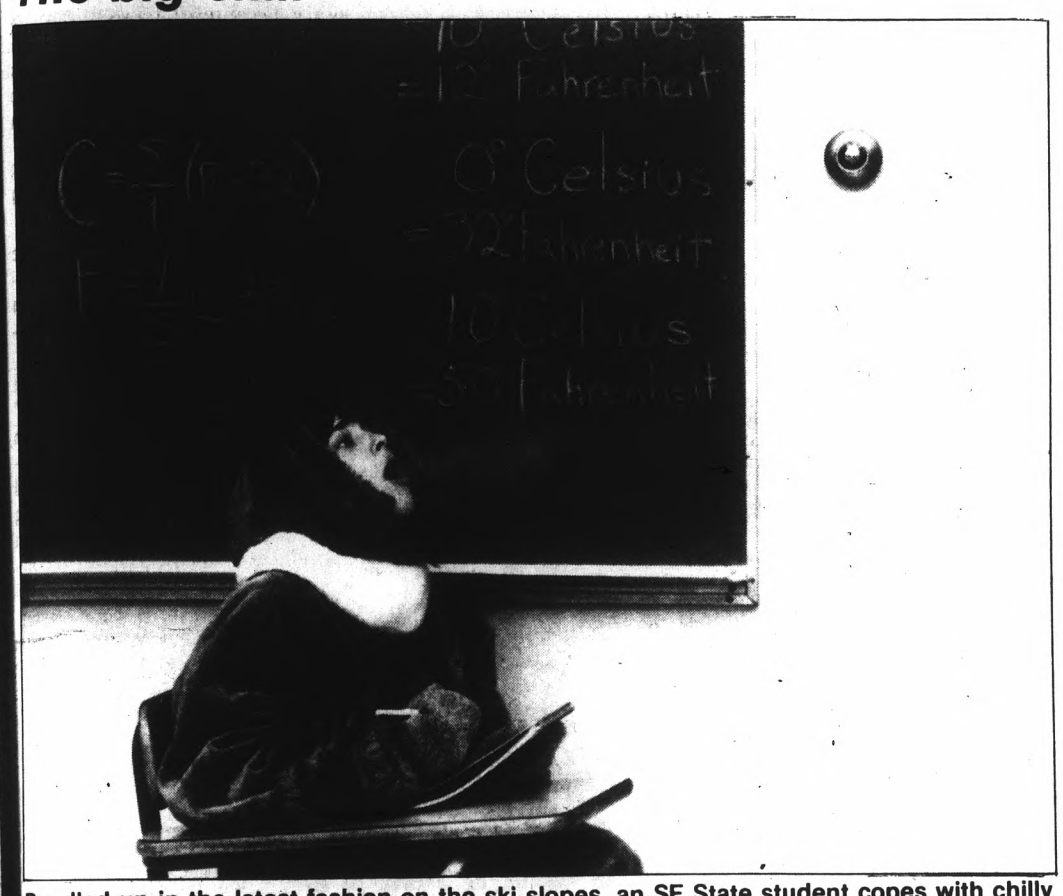
Several board members noted that all the alcove vendors have been here for more than five years and said that the spaces should be subject to open bidding.

"The quality of the service is not the issue here," Kossain told Phoenix. "The issue here is a fair process which benefits everyone. The old vendors would still have an advantage (if bidding opened) because they have a proven track record. But the board would get to see what (other) kinds of services are out there."

The vendors said they had made investments on the expectation that their contracts would be renewed.

"The money I spent on a scale may not seem like a lot to you," vendor Carim Kardouche told the board, "but it's a big investment for me."

The big chill



Bundled up in the latest fashion on the ski slopes, an SF State student copes with chilly classroom temperatures caused by faltering heaters during the recent cold spell. (Illustration by Catharine Krueger.)

Correction

In the last issue of Phoenix (Nov. 21) Phoenix mistakenly reported that AS presidential candidate Mitch Ferrer was a member of La Raza. Ferrer had actually been a member of La Raza Students in Psychology. Phoenix regrets the error.

Nicaraguan singer to perform Monday in Student Union

A leading woman vocalist in the new nationalistic folk song movement in Nicaragua will perform in the Student Union next week.

Norma Elena Gadea, leader of the A.M.L.A.E. (the Association of Nicaraguan Women), will sing and discuss life in revolutionary Nicaragua, Monday, Dec. 9th, in the Student Union Conference Room A-E between 3:30 - 5 p.m.

The event is being sponsored by La Raza Organization, Central America Solidarity Committee and the Women's Center.

Campus strikers vindicated

SF State destroys disciplinary records

By Lionel Sanchez

SF State has complied with a federal court order and destroyed the disciplinary records of former students who participated in the 1968-1969 campus strike.

The records were shredded Nov. 26 in the main office of the Facilities Planning and Operations department with two attorneys and a campus official present as court witnesses.

The 13-year-old dispute ended with the shredding of 336 card files and several other documents containing the names of those who were arrested and disciplined for attending a January 1969 rally banned by then SF State President S.I. Hayakawa.

In October, a U.S. District Court judge ruled that the university violated a 1972 federal court injunction prohibiting students who were arrested at the rally from being disciplined solely on the basis of police reports. The court ordered the expunging of the disciplinary records and the awarding of attorney fees.

Not all the records were destroyed, according to Peter Pursley, the lead counsel who represented the 336 former students in a class action law suit. He said 22 transcripts still have disciplinary marks that need to be erased.

Pursley, who took over the case in 1980, said he filed for $182,000 in attorney fees from the California State University Board of Trustees on Nov. 20 at a district court.

Deputy Attorney General Matthew Boyle, representing CSU, said his office is considering an appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court. CSU should not have to pay lawyer fees because it did not keep the records intentionally, he said.

He said SF State officials were not aware the records were kept in the files.

Pursley said attorney fees would be divided among eight lawyers who worked on the case during the past 13 years. "We estimated we took 800 hours with the disciplinary claim. But we're also seeking partial reimbursement for the related claims that did not prevail, but at a substantially reduced amount," he said.

The lawsuit, filed in 1972, charged Hayakawa and the board of trustees with violating the students' constitutional rights. The lawsuit claimed the university blacklisted people who participated in the strike, which prevented them from obtaining university employment; illegally impounded student government funds; interfered with student government elections; initiated unlawful arrests; and compiled the illegal academic records.

All but the last complaint were rejected by the federal court.

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Headlines

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Students to harvest coffee in Nicaragua

By Paul Kullman

Instead of barreling down ski slopes or basking in Hawaiian sunshine, six SF State students will spend their winter vacation laboring eight hours a day, six days a week, alongside peasants and other volunteers in the coffee fields of northern Nicaragua.

"The coffee I'll be picking will provide food and education for the Nicaraguan people," said Carmen Zelaya, who moved to the United States from Nicaragua with her mother nine years ago.

Coffee exports bring in Nicaragua's foreign exchange, which is vital to its economy.

Nicaragua Exchange, a New York-based organization promoting friendship between the United States and Nicaragua, will provide half of the $1,000 needed per person for the two-week harvest expedition. The volunteers must raise the remainder before the group's departure Jan. 4.

Since 1983, more than 1,000 Americans have worked with brigades in Nicaragua. This brigade, however, is different. All of the volunteers are "people of color," said student Gloria Alonzo. Yumi Yuge, for example, is a Japanese-American and Patricia Ovando comes from El Salvador.

The brigade gives minorities in the United States an opportunity to show their solidarity with the people of Nicaragua, said Alonzo.

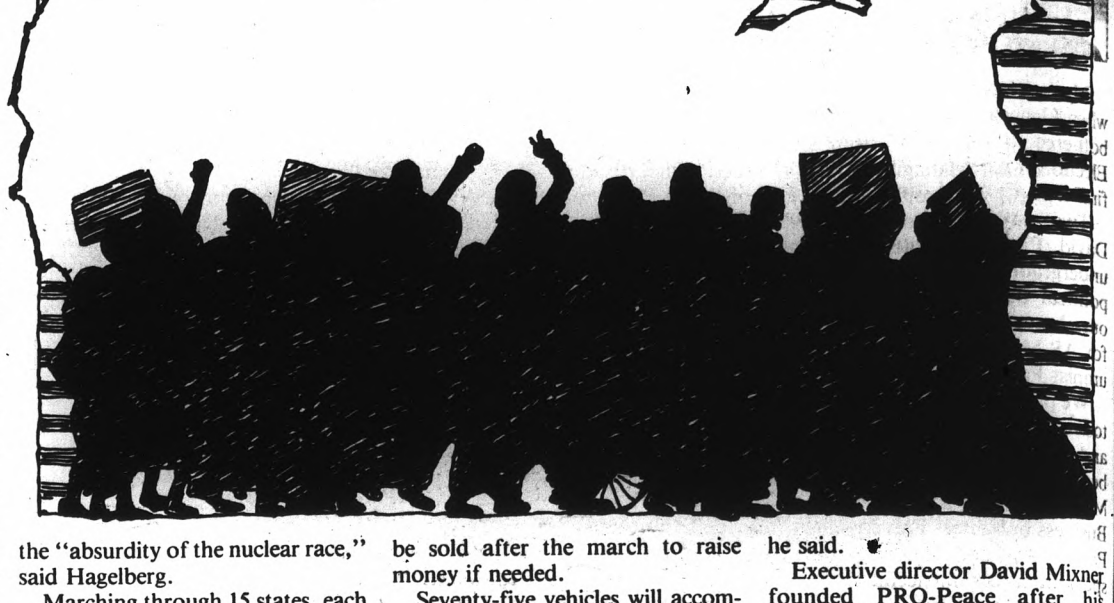
Kiam Ghalamkar, the only male in the group, said the harvest brigade will be sent to an area of minimum anti-Sandinista or "Contra" activity. He added that no region is "100 percent Contra-proof."

"I havent told my parents yet," said Evelyn Rodriguez. She's afraid they will find it too dangerous. "I have to find the right time to tell them," she said. "I'll do it before Christmas."

Ghalamkar, who was born in Iran, said he feels obligated as a world citizen to help the Sandinista government, which he said is striving for democracy despite the war and United States embargo.

Nukes foes will walk to D.C.

By Elizabeth Khachigian



"If evil men can get together to create great evil, then why can't good people get together to create great good?" wrote Leo Tolstoy in "War and Peace."

In the spirit of Tolstoy's philosophy, 5,000 people will gather at the Los Angeles Coliseum on March 1, 1986, to walk to the nation's capital in an effort to halt the arms race peacefully.

People Reaching Out for Peace, an anti-nuclear group known as PRO-Peace is organizing the "Great Peace March" with the message "Take 'em down," urging all govenments to eliminate nuclear weapons.

"We're an international (peace) movement with a goal: international global disarmament," said PRO-Peace spokesman John Hagelberg.

The nine-month journey of 3,235 miles, which ends Nov. 15 in Washington, D.C., includes crossing the Mojave Desert, climbing the 12,000 foot Loveland Pass to Denver, and stopping in Chicago, Pittsburgh and New York.

"There is a very rational and compassionate argument behind (the march)," Hagelberg said. "We're gathering together to say, 'Enough!' "

Supporters of the march include celebrities Barbra Streisand, Paul Newman, Jodie Foster and Ed Asner.

One intent of the march is to raise the issue of nuclear war and the "absurdity of the nuclear race," said Hagelberg.

Marching through 15 states, each person will take an estimated 10,098,000 steps. The group will wear out about 20,000 pairs of shoes.

Shoes are one of many costs involved in the $20 million undertaking. The trip costs roughly $1 per mile per marcher, or $3,235 each.

So far, $3 million has been raised, which is enough to cover the down payments on the equipment and supplies, according to Hagelberg. He said the equipment could be sold after the march to raise money if needed.

Seventy-five vehicles will accompany the marchers, including six mobile cafeterias that will serve nearly 4 million meals during the trip.

The nationwide recruit for marchers continues. Participants must be at least 18 years old or accompanied by a parent, in good health and committed to spending nine months away from work, school, family and friends.

"We're getting a great deal of enthusiasm from college campuses," he said.

Executive director David Mixner founded PRO-Peace after his 7-year-old niece told him she thought she was going to die in a nuclear war.

PRO-Peace is not blaming anyone for the nuclear arms race, Hagelberg said. But he predicts that after seeing the "Great Peace March," everyone will be "forced to think about the crisis that the world is facing."

Anyone interested in participating in the march can contact PRO-Peace at (213) 653-6245.

DPS arrests four youths for car break in

By Dave Harlander

Four youths were arrested on suspicion of stealing a car Friday night in the student parking garage, according to the Department of Public Safety. They were discovered crouching in their seats.

"It's all right, officer. We're just staying in the vehicle," one of the four explained when an officer came to the driver's window, according to a DPS report. The officer asked who owned the car. "A dormitory student," one of the suspects said, although he didn't know which dorm, according to the report.

A license check was made. The car owner, who was telephoned, told DPS he had given no one permission to use his car. A screwdriver was found jammed in the car's dashboard near the ignition switch, the report said.

After their arrest, two of the suspects admitted that the four had taken Muni to SF State, broke into the car after forcing a wing window open and were attempting to start the car, the report said. They were discovered around 7:30 p.m.

In another DPS matter, Capt. Malcolm Vaughan said the arson fire at the Frederic Burk Foundation, which occurred Oct. 18, is still under investigation. He said evidence of a second, smaller fire was discovered the same day outside the foundation's office on Font Street. He would not say whether DPS had any suspects.

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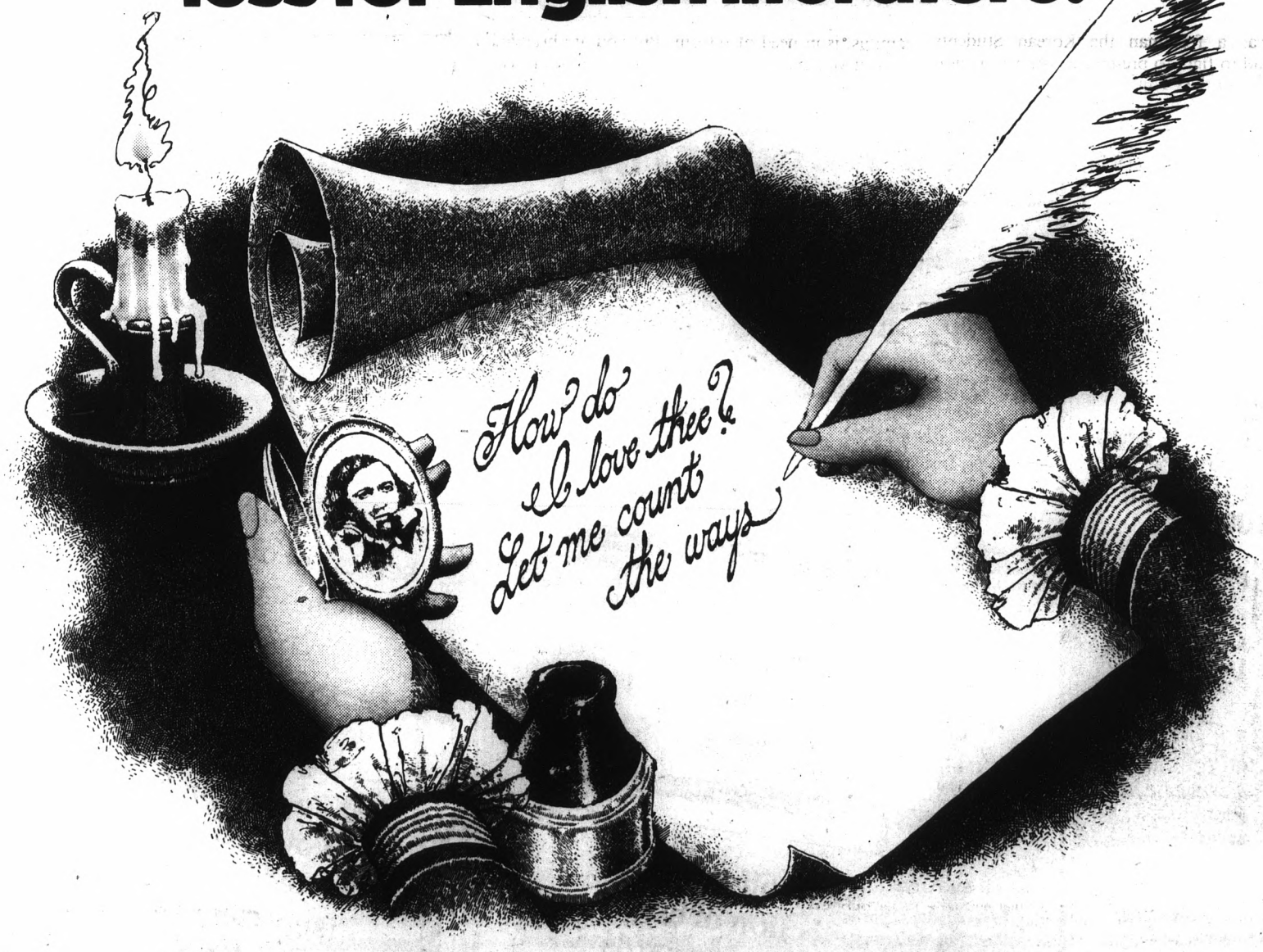

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Opinion

The Finnigan File

The A.S. maestros — orchestrating for a deaf and mute audience

My brief political career came to a screeching halt when I learned the election results. Only 1,338 students bothered to vote in last month's Associated Students Election. I received 72 votes in my bid to be SF State's first Irish-Catholic student body president for the 80s.

Two days before the election, Gater columnist David Plotnikoff and I came up with a bizarre undergraduate challenge: Why not scare these AS political bedwetters with a little bit of campaigning ourselves? I would run for president and he would run for AS Miami Vice President. We became "The Columnist Party."

We proposed, among other things: noontime midget tossing on the Student Union lawns, tanning salons and "hair designs by Andre" on campus, off-track betting at the Information Desk for the Pick-Six at Bay Meadows, student parking inside the Humanities and Business buildings, Tuesday night roller derby between Palestinians and Zionists, and actor Don Johnson speaking at commencement.

Our platform was direct, innovative and unique not only to this campus but to the galaxy.

We knew we would lose, but we had to try for our resumes' sake. Unlike the professional students who have dominated campus politics for decades, Dave and I see the necessity of graduating quickly. Portfolios and sharp resumes, not picket signs and rallies, are our tickets out of the safe confines of college.

The two-member Columnist Party had the motto: "When the going gets weird, Dave and Dave get going." We felt that, over the past three years in particular, the Associated Students has indeed gotten weird.

Six percent of the 25,000 students voted for AS representative last month. This says to me that 94 percent of the students here don't care about AS.

The ruination of SF State's student government has partly come about from the overzealous but unproductive minority-oriented hocus-pocus promises that embrace Third World revolution while letting the Child Care Center go broke.

This three-year overemphasis on so-called "minority" or "Third World" issues has removed from legislative debates such student-wide, non-ethnic issues as parking, public transportation, campus safety, and housing. These vital issues, more relevant to a student than an AS candidate's stand on South Africa, have been for the most part sidestepped as the AS has given in to minority concerns while overlooking student issues as a whole.

When I was a freshman the Korean Students Association had to fight to preserve its Student Union office space against the Delta Sigma Pi business fraternity, an organization with far more members. At the AS legislative meeting where the issue came up, the Korean students won their precious space back.

What AS has become is an ethnic Tammany Hall, a Third World version of Mayor Daley's Democratic Party machine in Chicago. What we will continue to see is this power cartel trying to "relate to the masses" while giving no thought to a large portion of the student body.

What kind of AS would not stand up to the Palestinian students when they advocated denying Rabbi Meir Kahane's right to free speech, even on this "aware" campus?

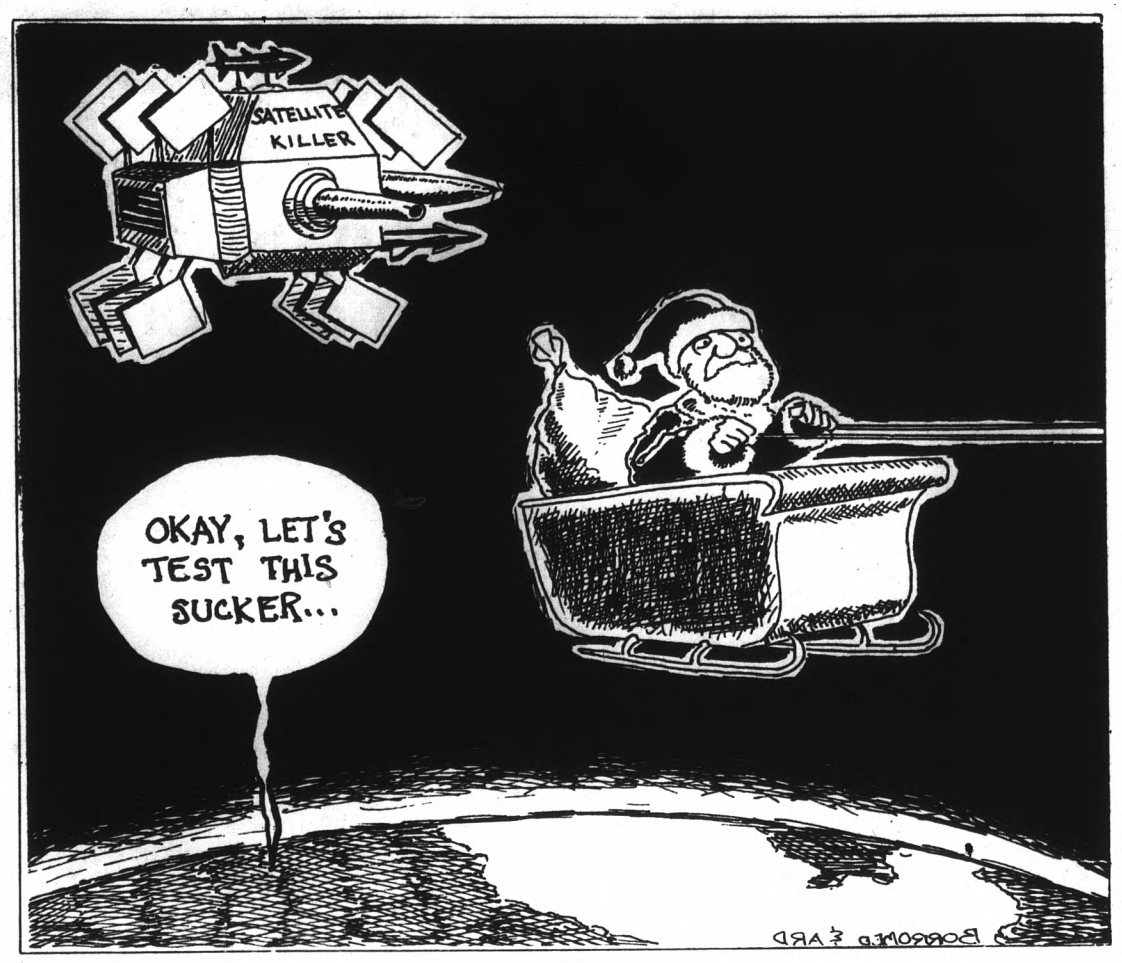
Does not the AS support the First Amendment for everyone, or only those who fit up to its political bill?

Perhaps the most crucial academic issue at SF State, one for students of all colors but one that the AS has never addressed, is why students are not graduating in four, five, or even six years. We have a campus full of people who are taking just forever to get their undergraduate degree.

Awareness of the issues of people of color is critical to functioning successfully and compassionately in this world. But students should also have some semblance of just what the hell they're going to do with their lives after all this college stuff is over. AS has for too long designed agendas that promote Third World awareness, which are useless since it has not set up other programs to guarantee that people graduate and earn a living. It's time AS recognizes the importance of graduating, again an issue that touches all students and should be dealt with that way.

Last spring the AS voted to lower the minimum required grade-point-average for representative-at-large candidates from 2.5 to 2.0. It is this same spirit that devalues any education beyond "ethnic awareness" that has made AS the sham that it is now. AS leaders charged that the recent toughening of the California State University admission standards was "racist" to the academic needs of Third World students. In saying this, they isolate a large part of whom they represent — non-Third World students such as me — by not protesting the new standards because they will change the very nature of what and whom the CSU system exists for, namely students of all creeds and colors.

The extremist politics of AS government, a representative body isolated from 94 percent of the students on campus, is in need of reform. But you are branded a racist if you charge that the ever-holy AS ethnic Tammany Hall is too minority oriented and is color blind to white students.



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Phoenix is a laboratory newspaper published each Thursday during the school year by the Department of Journalism, San Francisco State University. Opinions of the Phoenix editorial board are expressed in the unsigned editorial, which does not necessarily reflect the policies or opinions of the Journalism Department or the university administration.

The Phoenix encourages readers to write. Letters may be dropped off in HLL 207 or mailed to "Letters to the Editor," Phoenix, 1600 Holloway Ave., San Francisco, CA 94132. Signed letters will be printed on the basis of available space.

Research for some of the articles appearing in Phoenix is made possible by a grant from the Reader's Digest Foundation.

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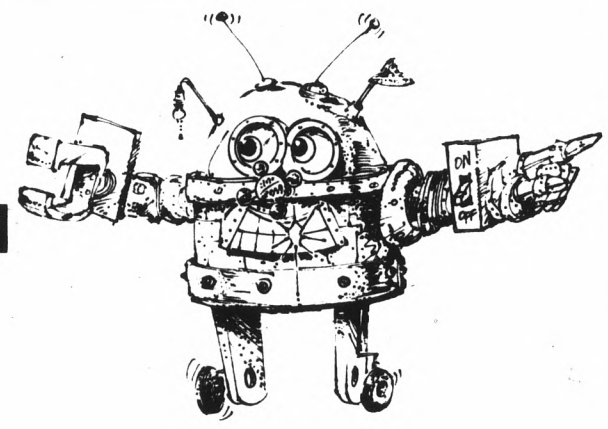

Chris Crowley
1st PRIZE — $75

*After 5 or 6 pm, only run 2 of the elevators in Thornton Hall. People will be inclined to use the stairs this way—two problems are solved—they lose weight and save energy—(freight elevator can also be run, but only by key).

Craig Westbrook
2nd PRIZE — $50

*Place signs, stickers, etc., by wall outlets suggesting or asking questions:
1) Is this light necessary?
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PG and E thanks all of those who participated in the contest. Watch the *PHOENIX* for further surprises on energy conservation.

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Phoenix is looking for a skilled editorial cartoonist. Send samples to HLL 207.

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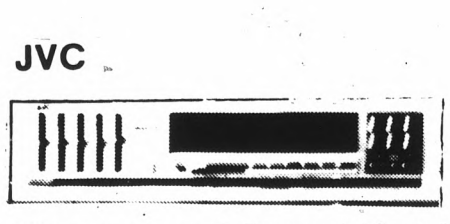

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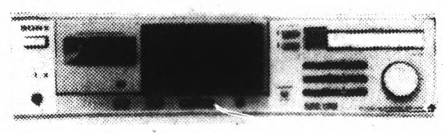

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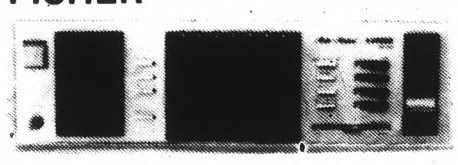

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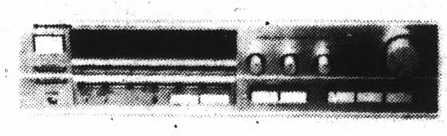

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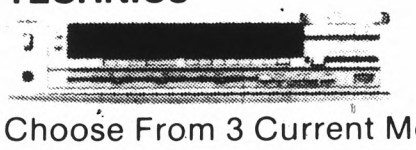

Choose From 3 Current Models

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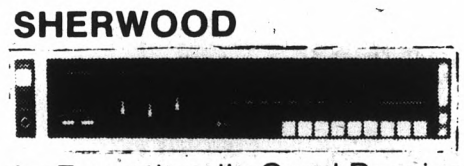

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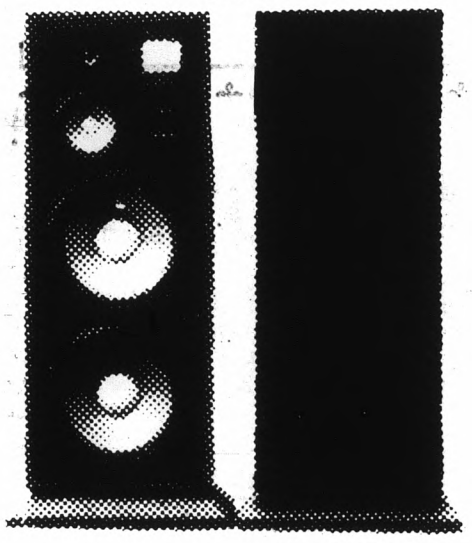

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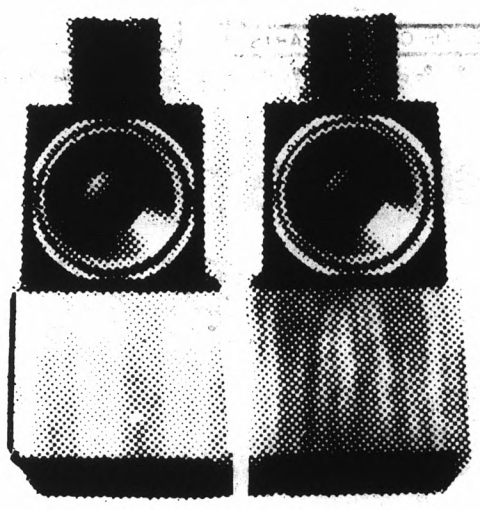

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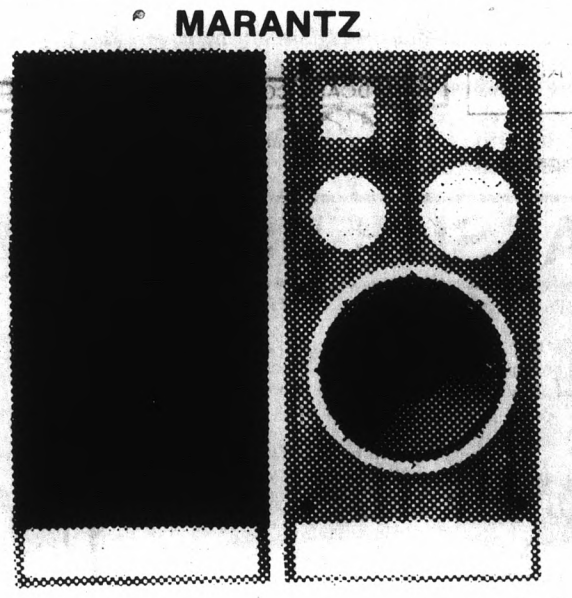

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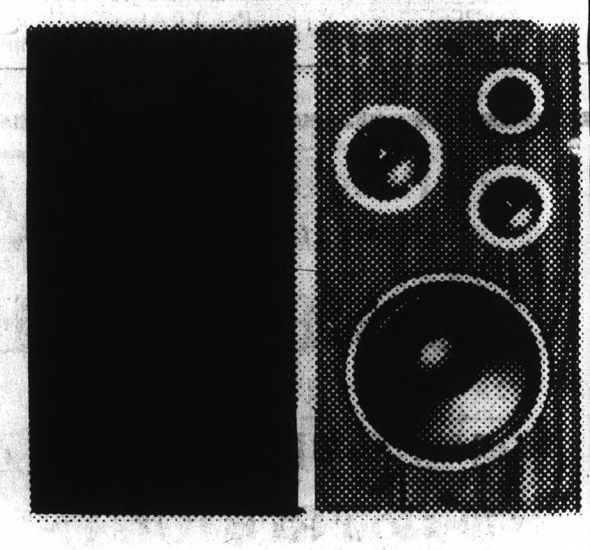

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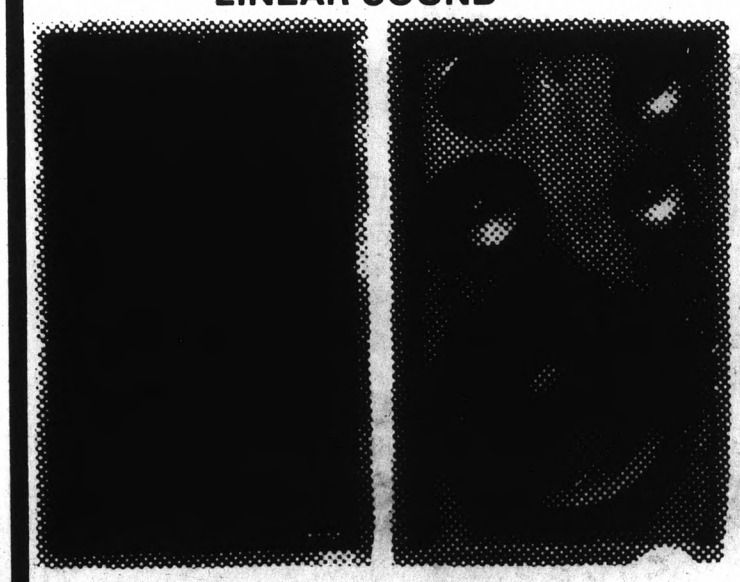

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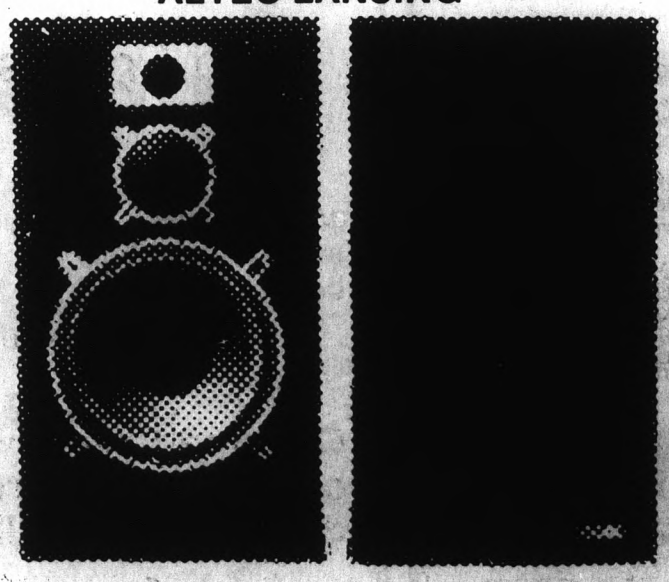

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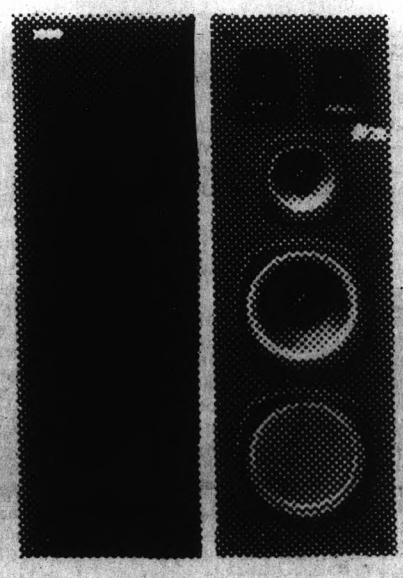

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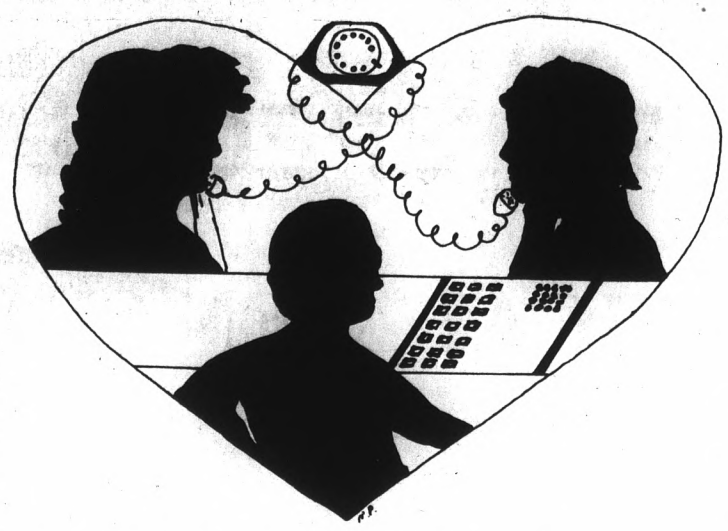
Radio's answer to singles' bars

By Elizabeth Khachigian



Tired of the singles bar scene, blind dates and lines like "Hey, baby, what's your sign?" Take heart. There's a radio program just for you.

"Affair on the Air" is a radio program where people call in and arrange dates while on the air.

"We live in a lonely society," said Joanne Greene, hostess and creator of "Affair."

Greene has worked in radio for more than 10 years and is Public Affairs director at KFRC. Of the 22 programs she oversees, "Affair" is the only one she hosts.

"The bar scene only works for a few," said Greene, who is married.

Many singles in search of a partner put advertisements in the personals column of a newspaper's classified section. Greene thought that since it was fun to read the personals, "it must be fun to listen!"

Listeners call the KFRC hotline Monday through Friday from 7 to 9 p.m. in search of the perfect date. Those participants chosen are broadcast over the air with Greene moderating.

The show's producer, Mark Hurtz, tries to select callers who have good voices, who are articulate and who develop answers over the air.

"I have to be kind of scrutinizing with these people," he said.

He looks for legitimate callers, those who aren't calling as a prank. Personality is also important, especially in passers who "have to be very charismatic."

"Passers" request whatever they are looking for in a mate.

"Receivers" call the station if they're interested in a particular passer.

The station gets as many as 100 callers who want to participate in the program. Hurty initially selects a few passers between 6:30 and 6:45 p.m.

Greene introduces passers and then they present themselves to the listening audience; describing their ages, occupations and their ideal partner.

"I'm looking for someone sincere, honest, enjoys life and has an outgoing personality . . . a nonsmoker, tough," says Mike, 30, a flight engineer originally from Hawaii.

After hearing the passer, interested receivers call the hotline, 478-KFRC. Up to 20 receivers have called for one passer, but Hurty only selects three receivers per passer for the show.

"Do you agree to release KFRC of all liability?" Hurty asks each caller before allowing them to participate and speak on the air.

It is up to the passer to choose which receiver to go out with, and the couples are then responsible for their own arrangements and outcomes.

One couple who "met" through the show is now married; at least one other couple is engaged, and several others have moved in together, according to Greene.

"Affair on the Air" is not geared toward a sexual preference. Homosexuals, as well as heterosexuals, have participated.

Hurty said the show recently had a "really successful" matchup between two homosexual women.

Hurty screens callers. Those selected, referred to only by first name, are typed into a computer, their names appearing on a screen in the broadcast booth.

This system enables Greene to know which caller is on which telephone line, the caller's age and, if the caller is a receiver, which passer he or she wants to meet.

Callers must be at least 18 years old to play, but Greene said, "It's not teen-oriented." While most callers are between their late 20's and early 40's, according to Greene, the ages range from 18 to 70.

The show appeals to a wide variety of people, from professionals to the working class.

"The bulk of the people are pretty average folks," said Greene, "and a majority of the callers are divorced."

One 24-year-old caller from Concord, Michelle, said she called one time as a "dare." Since her recent divorce she's found that meeting people can be a problem.

"I got tired of going through the same old thing to meet people . . . (The program) sounded like an interesting way to meet someone," she said.

Greene said the participants are "willing to take a risk."

Greene noted that the program was also a great way for those who are blind or disabled to meet people.

"It's an important service for people who cannot get out," she said.

There are similar dating-type radio shows, but "Affair on the Air" is unique because conversations between callers are broadcast over the radio using a conference calling system.

The community has responded positively to the show, according to Greene.

"People get a real kick out of it," she said. "It's America!"

Cartoonist bids goodbye, but for good?

His cartoons have generated laughter and occasional pauses for reflection during the past three semesters. Phoenix cartoonist Tom Borromeo graduates this month — if he can pass his biology final.

He began his tenure with the campus publications in fall 1983 as a business manager for Phoenix and Golden Gater.

Borromeo, 23, began cartooning for Phoenix in spring 1984. "I couldn't stand being a business major," he said.

Borromeo was also under the impression that cartoonists are love magnets. Instead he spent lonely, miserable nights drawing cartoons.

His cartooning will best be remembered by his well-directed barbs at President Reagan, campus administrators and frazzled students, who are facing finals.

"I'll miss the lonely, miserable sleepless nights," Borromeo said.

Good luck on your final, Tom.

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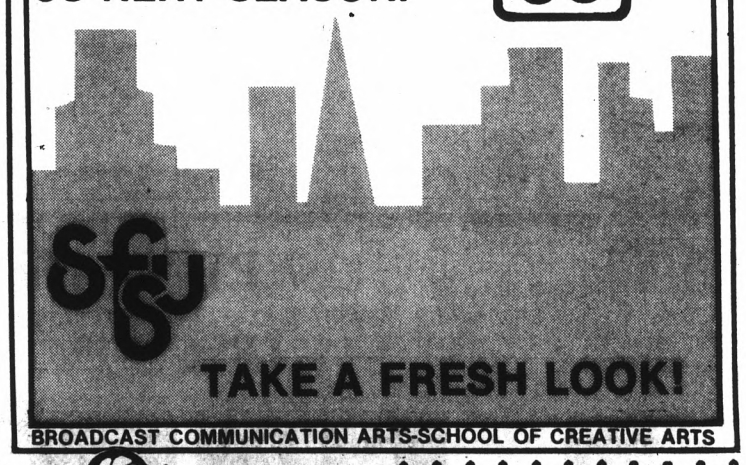

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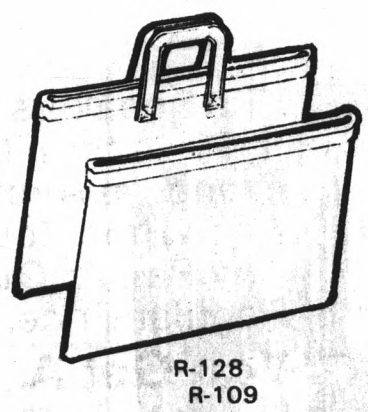

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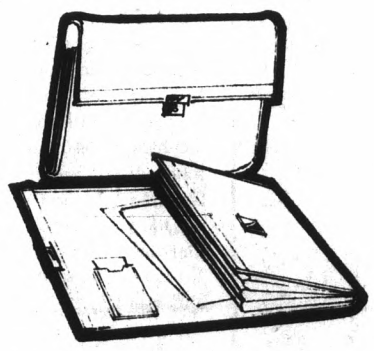

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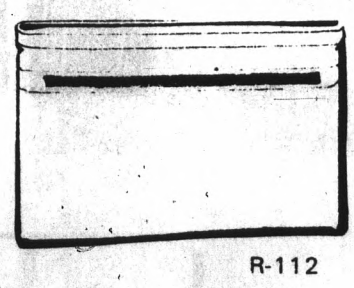

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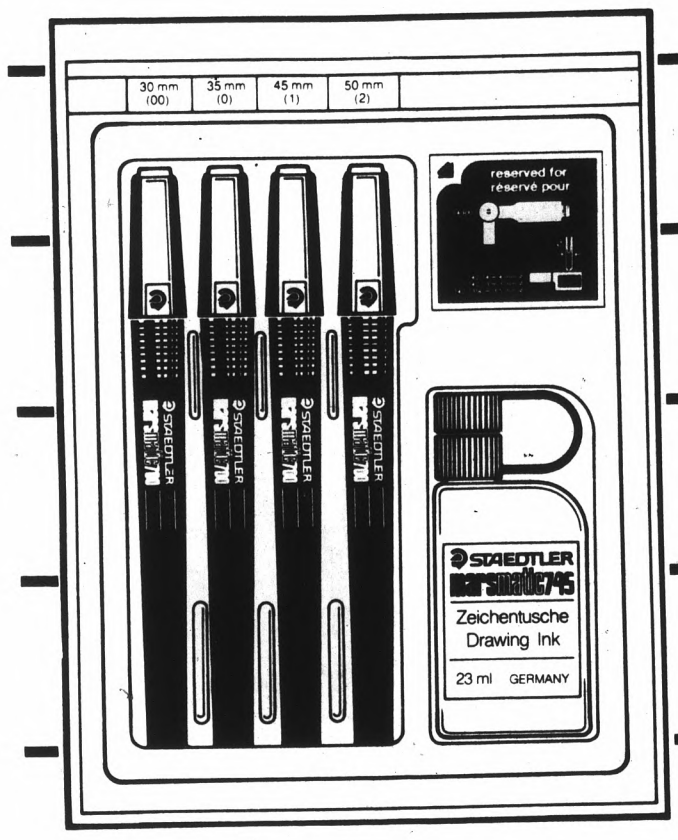

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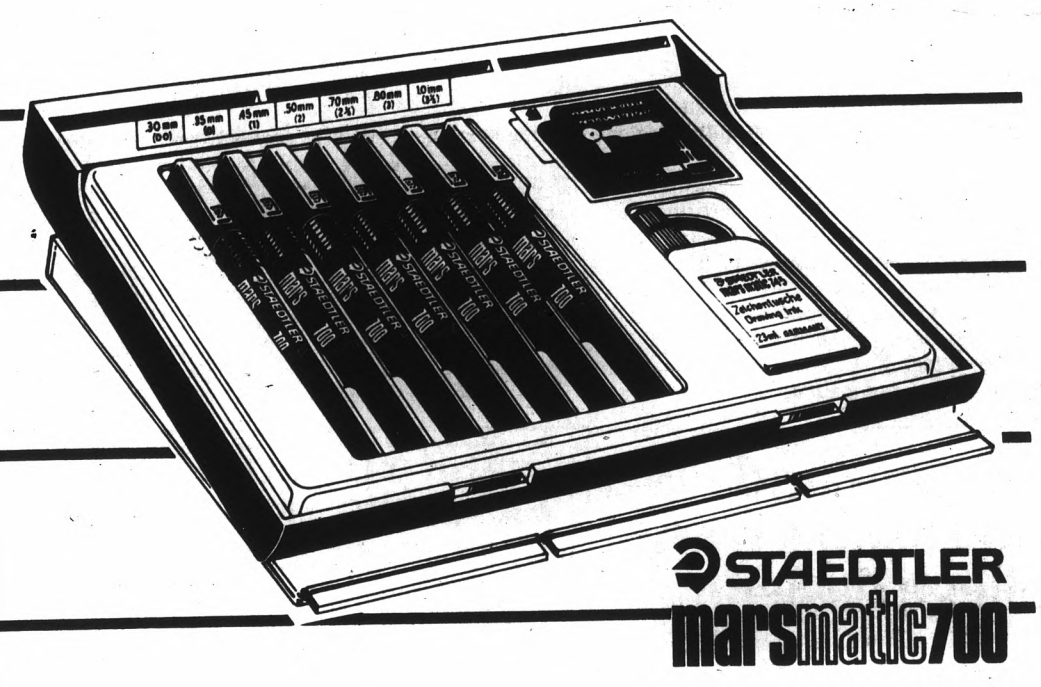

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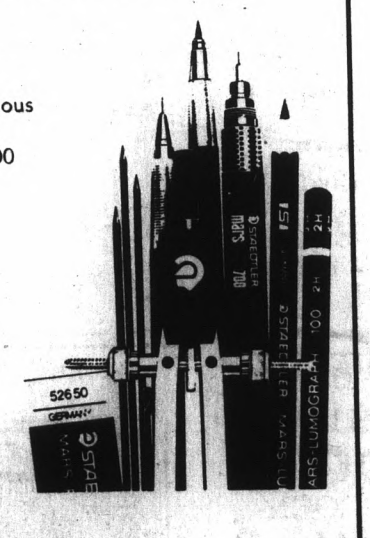

FRANCISCAN SHOPS

MORE THAN A BOOKSTORE

MAIN FLOOR—STUDENT UNION

'If puppets don't kill, why should people? And people didn't create this world, so why should they have the right to destroy it?' said puppeteer Tommy Roberts. (Photo by Darcy Padilla.)

Puppeteer makes peace a priority

By Catherine Schlichte

When the sun shines at SF State he can be found pulling puppets from tattered plastic bags as students stare in wonder at his bedraggled self. He's known around town as the Puppet Man, but his real name is Tommy Roberts and his hope for life is in his puppets.

At first glance you know he has lived a hard life. A blue woolen cap crowns a face netted with wrinkles. A navy trench coat hangs from his slight frame. His walk is stooped and slow. His hands, swollen with age, clutch bags bursting with puppets and poems.

Tommy performs his puppet shows with a gleam in his eyes and a grin on his face. Ruby the lion sings of the hope in "each new glorious day." A jacket draped over Tommy's head becomes two elephants in love, wondering why they must teach men to love and not war.

"They don't give you no bed of roses out there," said Tommy of his life as a puppeteer. "Sometimes you're trampled to death, sometimes you get no response at all and sometimes the response isn't very good."

Tommy writes his own skits and performs for students at universities, children in hospitals and elderly in nursing homes around the city.

Through the years, he has owned a collection of puppets. Some, like Ruby the lion, were given to him. Others, like his stick cup clown, he made. And some are just articles of clothing until he infuses them with life and makes them sing and dance.

Tommy seems to be about 75 years old but, according to him, he's 629. "Yep, the youngest leprechaun in existence, with a puppet show that'll be 24 years young this Christmas."

Tommy began his puppet career in Los Angeles when, working as a volunteer with mentally ill children, a local puppeteer introduced him to puppets.

"I saw the impact it had on mentally ill children and I said, 'Well, what have I been doing for a living?' I was washing dishes, I washed a million dishes and I reached a point where there was no point to that, so I said, 'If it has some meaning for them I'll try to keep it going.' "

He eventually left the restaurant business and took up puppeteering full time. He worked the UC Santa Barbara campus for several years but moved to the Bay Area 15 years ago because he "got no respect from the students."

Until last year he had been living "here and there" around the Bay Area, but a kidney operation placed him in San Francisco General. He was then transferred to Laguna Honda to recuperate. Although he recovered, he remained homeless, so he was allowed to remain as the "resident puppeteer."

"They asked me to stay on till I find a place," Tommy explained. "I do my puppets for the patients. Not only the wheelchair patients but the hurt, hurt patients are trying to figure out a way to get me (to perform). You can't go in with whole bands in a closed ward or a whole dance troupe, but you can go in with one puppet up to their face and make 'em smile."

At Laguna Honda, Tommy shares a room with three other men and doesn't like the lack of privacy. Despite this, he's happy there and doubts he will ever leave.

"This place is the Garden of Eden, but purgatory always seeps in. This is the end of the line for all of us," he said.

Tommy has been trying to do more than entertain with his puppets. He has also been trying to educate. It is his commitment that fuels the anger in his voice when he speaks of racism, hate and violence in the world.

"I left the South," said Tommy, who left his family and home in Florida at age 19. "Left the whole racist thing and I have had no contact with them. And that's all I have to say about them, period.

"Should I paint my black spots white or should I paint my white skin black?" said Spotty, the Dalmation, of the problems of racial integration, deciding in the end that both colors are worth having.

Over the years, Tommy has become disillusioned with students. He feels he has been cast as a freak and ignored. He grows increasingly bitter towards apathetic students and "Ph.D. idiots getting each other drunk while their brothers are being killed.

"The really important thing is to save this campus," explained Tommy. "That means the people on it. Not whether Tommy's got singing puppets or dancing puppets; that's just part of the scheme to save lives.

"It's not my life. I've already lived my life, but I still want to save what I have created, and nobody understands a word that I'm saying."

"Sometimes you're trampled to death, sometimes you get no response at all and sometimes the response isn't very good."

These are Tommy's quests: saving his creations and getting people to understand and respond to what he's saying.

But his creations — his puppets, his poems, his gift of mirth — are in danger of extinction. Tommy's getting old and, like most artists, he's striving for immortality. He'd like to see a Tommy Roberts Puppet Foundation created to sponsor and preserve his work and that of other puppeteers.

"I think I deserve a better fate than all my puppets and all my writing going in the garbage when I die."

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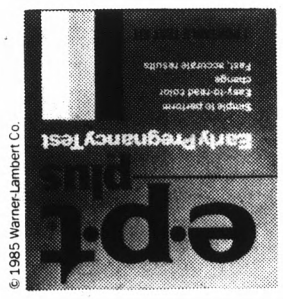

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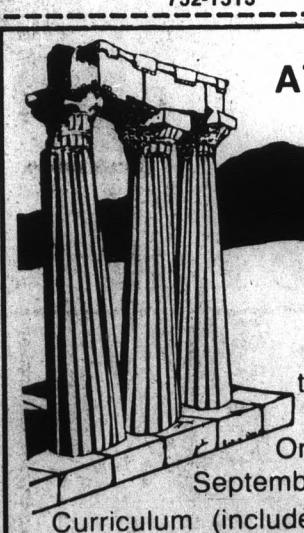

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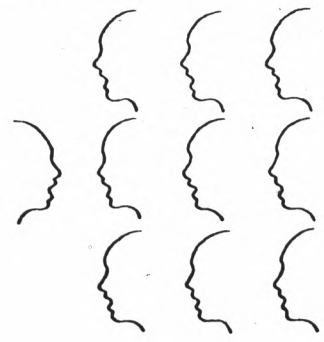

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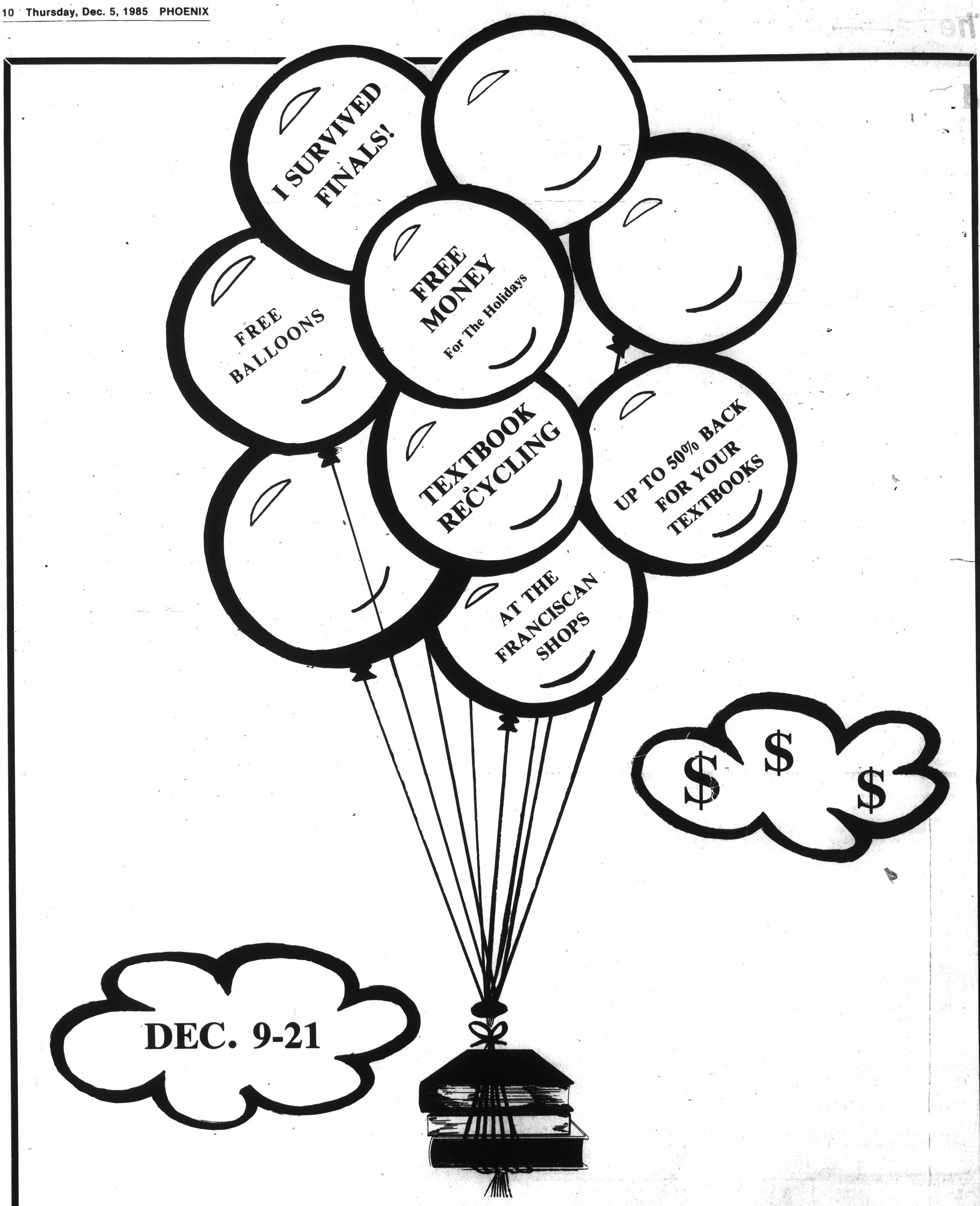

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FRANCISCAN SHOPS

MORE THAN A BOOKSTORE
MAIN FLOOR—STUDENT UNION

They are homeless, hungry and alone

By Cameron Galloway

Women wait in line at St. Anthony's Women's Shelter. (Photo by Catharine Krueger.)

Marie waits. She lines up two hours before St. Anthony's shelter door opens so that she's sure to be one of the 40 women allowed to sleep there that weekend.

Marie — whose five children died in a trailer fire 15 years ago, who began to drink after the accident, whose only family would be her adopted father except that he's dead — has no family. Marie has no home. Marie lives on Bay Area Rapid Transit. She says all the commuters sleep so they don't notice her.

A 1982 report by the Children's Defense Fund, a children's advocacy agency based in Washington D.C., says that the Reagan administration cutbacks in social aid have put a strain on private, nonprofit social service agencies. Six churches, led by St. Anthony's, had to create emergency shelter to try to keep up with the growing number of homeless.

Marie (not her real name) is about 40. She wears little make-up and a camel coat. Her nail polish is about a week old. She carries a small package and a medium-sized purse. She is one of the first women in line so she gets a bed ticket for the weekend. Some women will be referred. Others will be turned away.

Inside St. Anthony's, located in the Tenderloin, some women talk to themselves. Some wear shabby clothes. Others look well-clothed. Some know the routine of finding shelter by heart. Others have seen the streets this way for the first time in their lives. Some watch television. Others stare out onto the fake windows painted on the wall.

The number of homeless has at least doubled since 1981, said Seth Staley, program director at St. Vincent De Paul's shelter program.

The number of women seeking social services at the Bay Area Women's Resource Center in San Francisco has increased five times since 1981, according to the center's executive director, Midge Wilson. The center refers women to shelter and food services and offers a clothing service and legal aid.

Marie, who says she's trying to get herself "out of this and into something better," became homeless about three years ago when her ID was stolen and she couldn't collect the social benefits she was receiving.

Since then cutbacks in aid have brought her in and out of homeless status.

She received one half of her benefits last year because she worked part time at the Berkeley Battered Women's Refuge. In all, she received $199 a month and $63 in food stamps.

"How are you going to rent in even the most cheap hotels on that money? The first week is $42. The second week is $45 . . . . $63 in food stamps and that's what you're supposed to live on," Marie says.

"People on welfare aren't surviving. They have to come here to eat."

Marie shares her food with a friend. "Feast or famine," they say almost in unison.

Another woman, about 40, leans over the table where they eat. The woman's belly sags and sways under the black nylon nightgown she wears over a turtleneck sweater. "Can I have a little cheese, please?" They pass a slice of cheese to her.

She hunches over to speak to them. "You know," she says slowly. Her words pace in time to a slow, sad ballad. "They don't seem to have, you know, they just don't have what they used to. It's so different now — they don't have a sense of heart, of some sort of kindness. You know what I mean?"

Marie lives on Bay Area Rapid Transit. She says all the commuters sleep so they don't notice her.

She continues to talk. No one listens.

Marie says a year ago she didn't have to worry about getting shelter at St. Anthony's. "Now people will jump the line. It's a very tense atmosphere." Sometimes fights break out.

More women at the shelter are in their 30s and 40s, Marie says.

A self-proclaimed alcoholic who occasionally does volunteer alcoholic counseling, Marie hasn't had a drink in six months even though she lives on BART and doesn't eat much of the time. She has found jobs here and there, part time and volunteer.

Her eyelids droop over brown eyes though she is alert. Her hair is bound in a kerchief. She is composed. She looks straight ahead as she talks.

"I've had a nervous breakdown once," she says.

Memories return. Marie's eyes are damp, but she doesn't cry. She smiles shyly, a sweet, kind smile her children must have loved.

"Christmas is hardest for me."

At the beginning of the interview she was hard. Now she is soft and warm-hearted. "It's hard for most people. I suppose nobody likes Christmas." And she laughs at the irony. Her damp eyes sparkle. She keeps her lips over her teeth when she laughs. And the room still glares neon-white light. And a woman in a pink bathrobe talks about the time she was the hit at the Playboy Club.

Marie spends a sleepless night.

The cavern beneath the Tenderloin houses BART. It's time to go home. Commuters wait for a BART train they don't have to sleep on that night.

As the train approaches, a mouse scurries to find a hole in BART's cement trench so it won't be killed.

Say good-bye to Marie.

Brophy

Continued from page 1

math. The new requirements take effect in fall 1988.

Applicants who lack one or more units of the required subjects could be admitted under "conditional admission provisions," which are yet to be set up by the chancellor's office. Students admitted on this condition will be required to make up the missing subjects.

Gene Royale, SF State Affirmative Action director, said the provision is no insurance against a drop in minority enrollment. "It won't address the severity of the problem — only a small splinter group will be helped."

Less than seven percent of SF State's freshmen would have met the new requirements, he said. "I'm very disappointed with the decision."

Brophy said the board approved the new admission requirements to stem the drop-out rate in the CSU system.

About one in four CSU freshmen earns a degree within five years, said a CSU official who explained that 44 percent of CSU students graduate within ten years of entering the system. Many CSU students work and attend school part time, he explained.

The drop-out rate is clearly related to a lack of preparedness, said Brophy. Students get discouraged, he said.

Asked if financial difficulties could be one reason students drop out, Brophy replied, "Education is two things — lack of funds and no parking."

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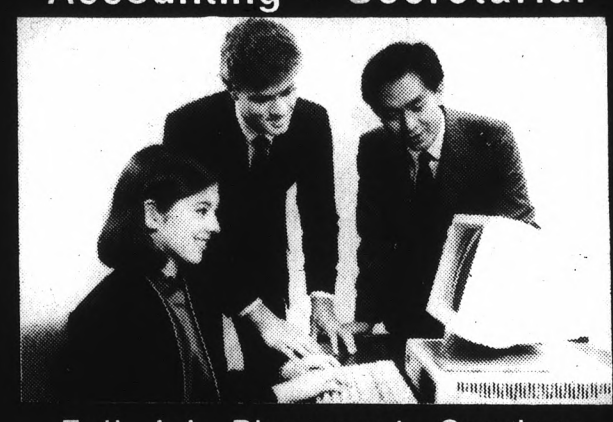

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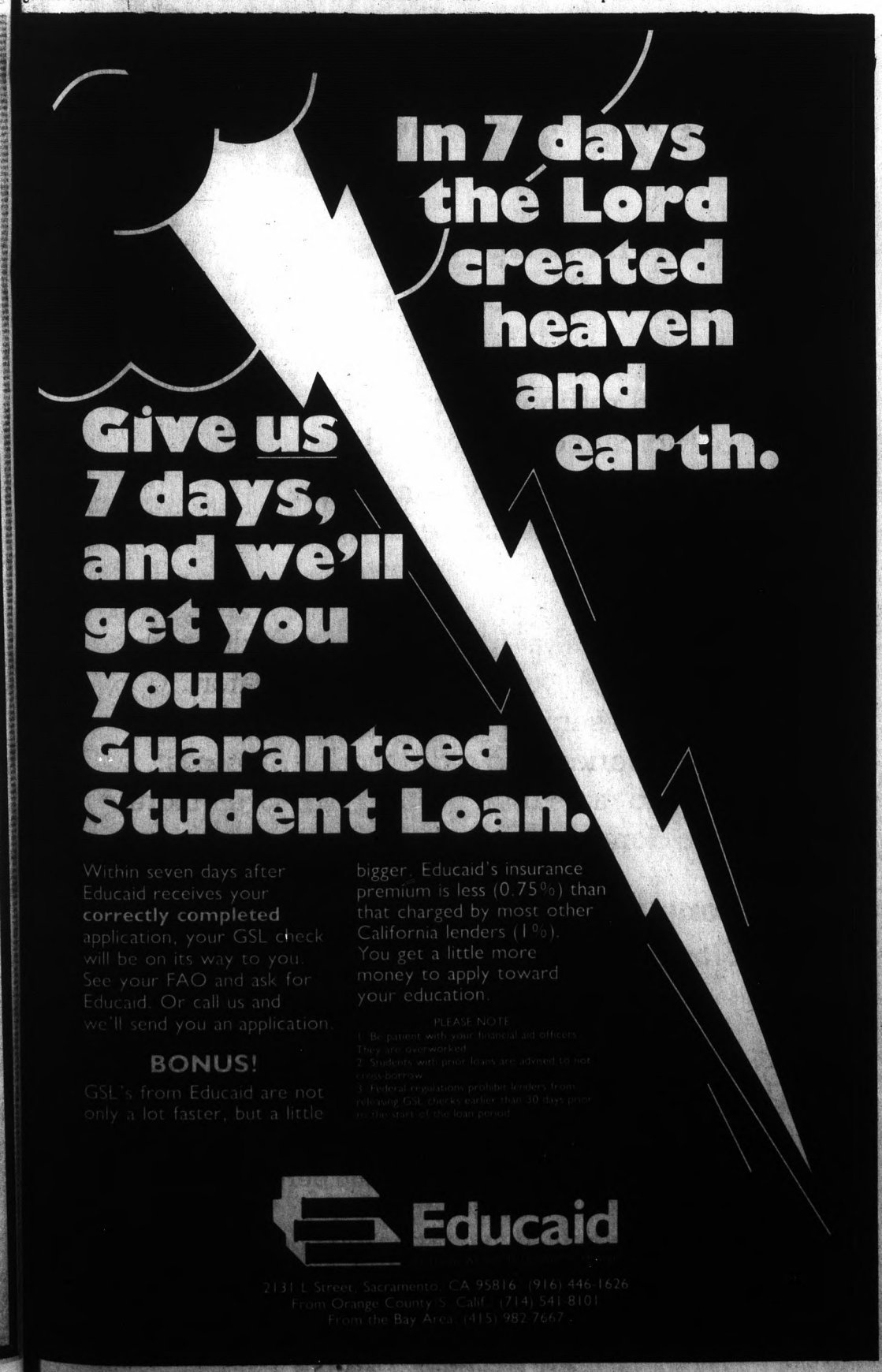

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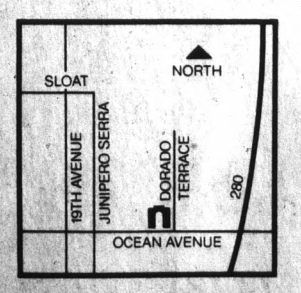

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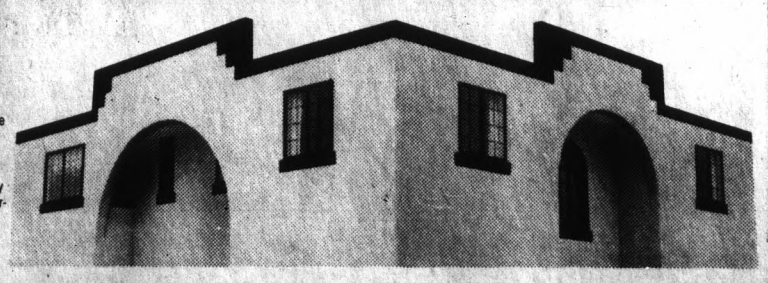

Arts

Amy Tischenor and David Bier rehearse a dance, entitled 'Cimmerian Shade,' for the EMBAJE concert. (Photo by Darcy Padilla.)

Come and meet those dancing feet

By Cameron Galloway

Thighs in tights. Yes, they sweat. Just pure muscle pushing, pulling, making a little life on stage. Thirty-six pliable appendages in this student dance group. Some are sleek anatomical wonders with muscles more detailed and delineated than medical textbook drawings. It is Monday and 18 dancers rehearse for a performance later in the week.

This is SF State's resident dance company EMBAJE (pronounced em-bah-zshay), an exotic way of saying Ethnic, Modern, Ballet, Afro-Haitian, Jazz and Experimental dance.

Dancers wriggle and twirl. They practice steps and goof off. Some boogie to a ghetto blaster's generic beat. Some muse about embarrassing Frito breath.

And Susan Whipp, the company's director, watches nervously. She's just learned she must get a new sound man for the performance Friday.

The EMBAJE performance of 12 dances choreographed by students and faculty will cover the gamut of dance styles from traditional ballet to experimental theater pieces.

But to Whipp, each dance has the flavor of more than one style. "Some look modern and jazzy, some look ethnic to me."

Two dances carry a political message. One anti-war and the other anti-apartheid. Another piece is performed to the sounds the performers themselves make and another is dedicated to rocking chairs. "God, I never knew you could do so much with a rocking chair," Whipp says.

"The show reflects different dance taught in school. We have a wide variety of dance forms and styles."

The goal of the Dance department is to create a versatile dancer not limited to any one form. Whipp says versatility increases chances for employment.

"As a field, dance is very rough. You could work one month, get hurt and be out for a year."

Now EMBAJE dancers are healthy, strong and immersed in this technical run-through.

While the troupe flits out a joyous bit of Whipp's choreography, the technical director stands stage left, keys on his hip, a clipboard in his hands. He calls out lighting directions as he watches the dance.

"Bring up C-one to five and six, C-two to three."

The stage sky turns bright twilight blue.

"Okay, now bring in that special."

Lavender for miles. A pleasant optical illusion.

He says two words: "H-three."

The dancers become gold, dart like fire in and out of shadow and light.

Some dancers in the troupe will "make it" on the outside. "About two or three of them," says Whipp.

It's hard work. Why choose to dance?

"Sheer love of the art," she says.

The EMBAJE concert will be held Dec. 6 and 7 at 8 p.m. in McKenna Theatre. Admission is $5 general, $3.50 for students.

Rhyth-O-Matics' Afro-ska

Bringing their cultural music to SF State

By Janice Lee

Although the Rhyth-O-Matics say they are most influenced by the music of South Africa, the country's stormy politics doesn't prevent the band from making upbeat songs.

"In countries of oppression, there can still be joyful music," said Andrew Scott, the band's drummer and founder.

The Rhyth-O-Matics' music has been called world beat, a term used to describe music that weaves messages encouraging global unity with African, Calypso and Latin rhythms. The world beat movement, which is to the '80s Bay Area music scene what psychedelic rock was in the '60s, is a way for musicians to express and share political convictions, anti-imperialism and anti-apartheid messages.

"Our songs don't have verbal political messages, even though we sympathize with those causes," Scott said. He is reluctant to call their music world beat — a label given to the band by early listeners — because "the problem is, what music do you not include when you talk about *world* beat?"

Unlike such world beat bands as Big City, the Looters and Freaky Executives, the Rhyth-O-Matics are not outspoken about their political views.

"Our message is in the joy of music," said Scott, who added that, besides South Africa, the music of Jamaica and Zaire are the band's biggest influences.

The Rhyth-O-Matics are considered to be the first world beat band to have released a record. (Photo by Marc Simon.)

"In countries of oppression there can still be joyful music."

Scott, who currently teaches a child development course through Extended Education, came to San Francisco from England in October 1980. In his native land, where there is "a strong African music scene," he played in a band called the Ivory Coasters for two years.

African music and reggae have been popular in England for a long time, but in America they are a "minority," he said.

For that reason, Scott said he wanted to redevelop a band like the Ivory Coasters, only this time in the States. The Rhyth-O-Matics was born.

His new band premiered at the 16th Note Club in March this year with Jimmy Foot on guitar, Ernest Boykin on bass, Rudy Ortiz on percussion and vocals, David Somers on tenor sax, Ross Wilson on trumpet, and Wayne Wallace — an SF State graduate and "one of the most sought-after trombone players," according to Scott — on trombone.

"Most of the music of this country has African roots," Scott said. "Our music is about paying homage to those people."

What sets the Rhyth-O-Matics aside from other world beat bands is that they released an album, "Walking in the Shadow," last month. Older, more established world beat bands have not. In the first three weeks, 600 copies were sold. "Walking in the Shadow" is now being distributed all over the country, Scott said.

Their Afro-ska is polyrhythmic dance music. Although vocals are limited, Scott says about one-third of their live shows involve vocals. Their next live show will be on Dec. 17 at the Student Union Depot beginning at 5 p.m.

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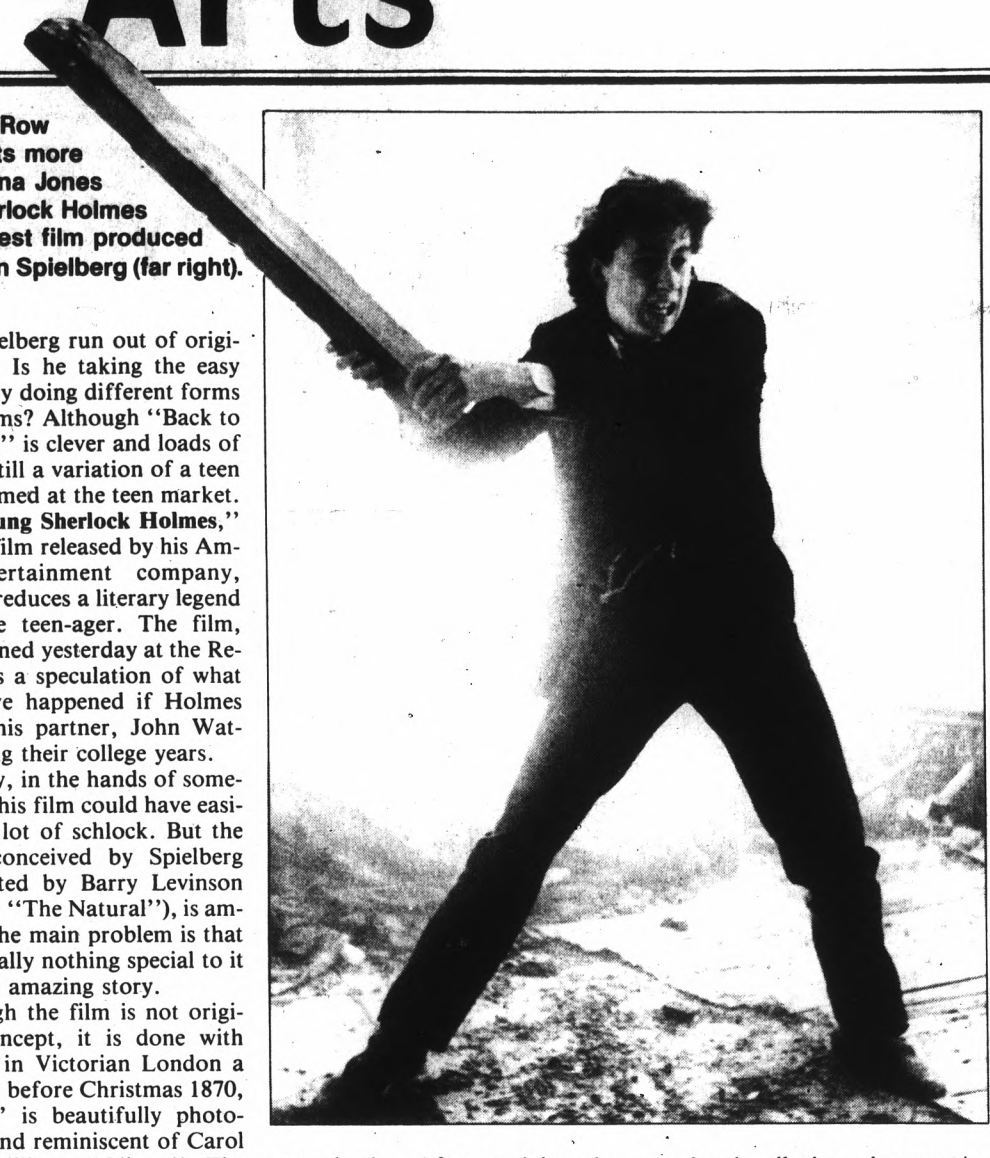
Arts

Philip Liborio Gangi's Screening Room

Spielberg's Holmes

Alas, poor Steven Spielberg. He is the American director for whom we had the highest hopes — the one who promised achievements of lasting international status. He thrilled audiences with "Jaws" and "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," amazed them with "E.T.," and put them on one big joy ride with "Raiders of the Lost Ark" and "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom." But then he began to produce films.

Although "Gremlins" and "Poltergeist," for which Spielberg is credited as executive producer, may not be masterpieces, they are respectable films. But this year's "Goonies" was horrendous, a kiddie "Indiana Jones" that even bored the kiddies.



Nicholas Row (right) acts more like Indiana Jones than Sherlock Holmes in the latest film produced by Steven Spielberg (far right).

Has Spielberg run out of original ideas? Is he taking the easy road out by doing different forms of teen films? Although "Back to the Future" is clever and loads of fun, it is still a variation of a teen comedy aimed at the teen market.

In "**Young Sherlock Holmes**," the latest film released by his Amblin Entertainment company, Spielberg reduces a literary legend to a mere teen-ager. The film, which opened yesterday at the Regency I, is a speculation of what might have happened if Holmes had met his partner, John Watson, during their college years.

Actually, in the hands of someone else, this film could have easily been a lot of schlock. But the project, conceived by Spielberg and directed by Barry Levinson ("Diner," "The Natural"), is ambitious. The main problem is that there is really nothing special to it — it is no amazing story.

Although the film is not original in concept, it is done with class. Set in Victorian London a few weeks before Christmas 1870, "Holmes" is beautifully photographed and reminiscent of Carol Reed's brilliant "Oliver." The story even has a Charles Dickens flavor to it.

The film centers around the mysterious deaths of some distinguished, elderly Londoners. When Holmes and Watson visit one of their college professors and his niece, Elizabeth, Holmes notices newspaper clippings of recent deaths. After studying the clippings, Holmes decides that the deaths were not accidental or suicidal, as the papers reported, but murders.

Unable to convince the local police of this theory, he decides to solve the mystery himself. Watson and Elizabeth doubt Holmes at first, but when the professor is murdered, all three become involved in solving the crime.

Although Chris Columbus' screenplay keeps the action moving at a graceful pace, the last quarter of the film seems to fit in an adventure film like "Indiana Jones," rather than in a mystery. The grand finale takes place in the hidden headquarters of a sinister religious cult complete with special effects and "Indiana Jones"-style stunts.

Performances are first-rate throughout the film. In his first screen role, 18-year-old Scottish actor Nicholas Rowe is good as Sherlock Holmes. The rest of the British cast, including Alan Cox as Watson and Sophie Ward as Elizabeth, are also good, and add authenticity to this American production of a Victorian-era tale.

Originality is what Spielberg's latest films have been lacking. On Dec. 20 "The Color Purple," with Spielberg as director, is set to open nationally. Based on Alice Walker's Pulitzer Prize winning novel, "The Color Purple" is a serious drama about the life of a poor southern black woman. It stars Whoopi Goldberg in her screen debut and San Francisco actor Danny Glover. A complete change of pace for Spielberg may inspire him to be more original. If the film is successful, Spielberg could regain his status as the great American director. After all, in Hollywood, you're only as good as your last picture.

Calendar

Music

- Home of the Brave, 12/5; Virgin Release, 12/10; Burning Witches, 12/12; Mitch Woods and His Rocket 88's, 12/19. 5-7 p.m. Student Union Depot. Free.
- Clarinetist Edward Cabarga, senior recital, 12/5, 8 p.m., Knuth Hall.
- University Concert Choir/Chamber Singers, 12/8, 3 p.m., Knuth Hall. Free.
- Voluntary Living, 12/13, noon, Barbary Coast. Free.
- University Choral Union/Symphony Orchestra, 12/15, 3 p.m., McKenna Theatre. $3.50 general, $2.50 students.

Films

- Three Stooges Festival with "A Plumbing We Will Go," "Spook Louder," "Oil's Well That Ends Well," "If a Body Meets A Body" and "We Want Our Mummy," 12/5 & 6, 4 & 7 p.m., Barbary Coast. $2.50 general, $2 students.
- "Scarface," 12/6; "Police Academy," 12/13; "Blues Brothers," 12/18. Begins at 5 p.m. Student Union Depot. Free.

Theatre

- "Seneca's Oedipus," Theatre Arts production, 12/5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14 at 8 p.m.; 12/8 & 15 at 2 p.m., McKenna Theatre. $4.50 general, $3.50 students.
- "Step on a Crack," Raggazume Theatre production, 12/6 & 7 at 7:30 p.m.; 12/7 & 8 at 1:30 p.m., Studio Theatre. $3.50 general. Creative Arts.
- "Night in Ukraine," Brown Bag Theatre, 12/10-13, noon, CA 104. Free.

Exhibits

- Master of Arts Exhibition with Diana Gregory Scott and Donna Hopson LaFon's "Fiber Constructions: Variations on the Grid," through 12/6, A&I 201.
- "Graduate Exhibitions," through 12/13, University Art Gallery, A&I 201.
- DAI 505 Exhibit, students' inventions, 12/16, 17 & 18, Barbary Coast.
- Fine Woodworking Exhibit, students' woodwork, 12/17, A&I 130.
- "The Revolving Floor Show," by the Center for Experimental and Interdisciplinary Arts, through 12/19, Art Gallery; "The Student Union ... A New Perspective," archives show, through 1/24, White Walls and Depot Wall; "Paintings by Tricia Atlas," through 1/31, Gold Coast. Student Union.
- "Celebrating Bach, Handel and Scarlatti," 18th-century books and manuscripts, facsimiles, photos, through 12/20. Frank V. de Bellis Collection, 6th floor, library.
- "Gigibori: Art Beyond Tradition in New Guinea," prints and drawings, through 12/21. Library, 1st floor hallway.

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Reach out and touch someone

Here we are, the Phoenix staff and yes — we are a little touched.

Pictured above: kneeling (L-R): Kathryn Armstrong, Barbara Cotter, Curt Dawson and Dave Rothwell. **Standing (front row L-R):** Julie Marchasin, Cameron Galloway, Elizabeth Khachigian, Paul Wolf, Scott Altice, Jana Salmon-Heyneman, Gayle Passaretti (in the phone booth), Catherine Schlichte, Lionel Sanchez, Ruth Snyder (in the phone booth), Ross Larsen, Julie Johnson and John Howes. **Standing (back row L-R):** Donna Kimura, Carol Prawicki, Janice Lee, Clare Gallagher, Darcy Padilla and **(Kneeling on top):** Paul Kullman.

Not pictured: Bill Hutchinson, Jane Thrall, Eric Ard, Gayle Robinson, Diana Hill, Glenda Smith, Karen Wong, Dave Harlander, Patricia McGoldrick, Sam Quinones, Carlos Ramos, Ed Russo, Mary Calvert, Phil Gangi, Mary Glass, Catharine Kreuger, Bruce Williams and David Finnigan.

We hope you have a wonderful vacation and, don't forget, if you have a hot news tip, pick up the receiver and give us a ring at 469-2083.

In pursuit of humanist medicine

By Gayle Robinson

In his new book, "The Way of a Physician," SF State Professor Jacob Needleman addresses critical problems facing the American medical profession.

He discusses rising health care costs, mounting malpractice litigation, and the declining intimacy between doctor and patient.

According to Needleman, who teaches philosophy, technology is an overwhelming factor blocking the art of healing. The very technology that is supposed to extend life often prolongs death, he said.

"Technology should be a servant, not a master," Needleman said. "Technology has taken the place of just looking with human eyes. Today we have tests and machines for almost everything, instead of a physician that is sensitive and caring."

Much of Needleman's book takes the form of letters addressed to an old man fictitiously named Benjamin Kaufman, a family friend and doctor whom Needleman idolized in his youth.

"I always felt that I was in the presence of wisdom when I was near Dr. Kaufman," Needleman said.

The letters are devoted to the problems Needleman encountered while teaching a series of weekly seminars called "Human Values in the Practice of Medicine" at the Gresham Memorial Medical Center in San Francisco. Needleman said he used letters instead of an essay form to bring a "feeling tone" to the reader.

"Today we have tests and machines for almost everything, instead of a physician that is sensitive and caring."

For several years Needleman dreamed of becoming a physician. He engaged in intense discussions with doctors and other health care professionals about the ideals and challenges of their profession.

At one point he even worked as a hospital orderly where some of his duties included preparing cadavers for autopsies and being a delivery boy of human parts. "I might be called into the operating room where I would be handed anything from a piece of tissue to a whole human leg or arm," Needleman said.

Much to the dismay of his family, who wanted Needleman to practice medicine, and despite Kaufman's advice, Needleman decided to study philosophy instead of medicine. Needleman received his Ph.D. in philosophy from Yale University in 1961.

As possible solutions to the medical crisis, Needleman insists that doctors must get back in touch with their powers as healers. And medical schools should put less emphasis on science and technology and more emphasis on the human element of life.

"Keep all the science but keep the direct encounter between a human being in real need and another human being who is obliged to help him through knowledge of nature and attention," he said.

Needleman attempts to determine what human qualities medicine should offer and how it may be recovered. His book ends by disclosing "what it means to be a real physician, and even more basically, what it means to be a real human being."

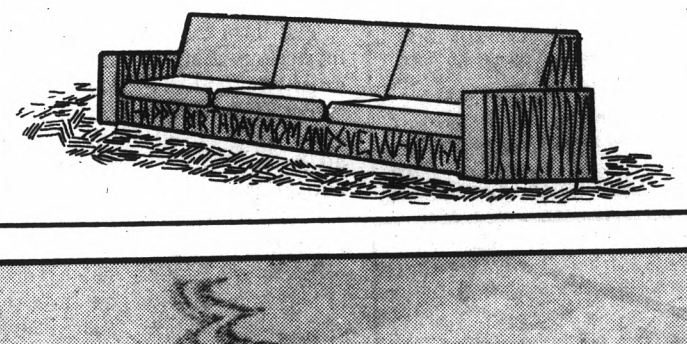
Needleman quotes Paracelsus, an ancient Greek doctor. "The art of medicine is rooted in the heart. If your heart is false, you will also be a false physician. If your heart is just, you will also be a true physician."

Needleman has written or edited many books on philosophy and religion, including "Lost Christianity" (1980) and "The Heart of Philosophy" (1982). He has a special interest in applying philosophy to the questions of everyday life.

Needleman said people need to get back to the philosophical questions of life such as "What is the purpose of life?"

Man is not meant to be purely practical, Needleman said. "There is a part of us that wants to relate to the universe. We must merge the practical side with the philosophical side to make two equal parts. Then we can become whole human-beings."

Have you seen our couch?



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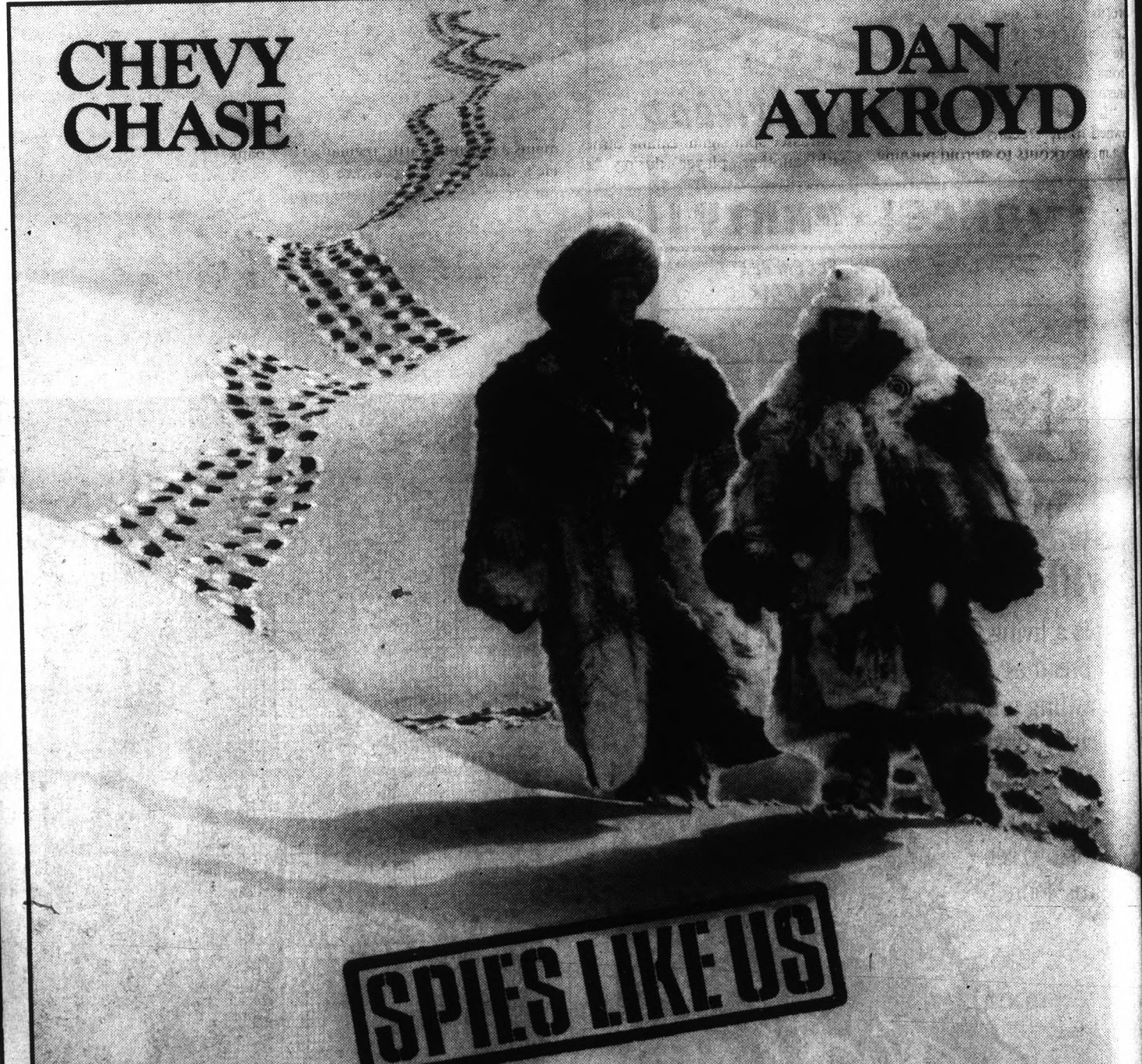

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Track Them Down December 6th at a Theatre Near You.

Low-key hero moves onward

By Curt Dawson

A brilliant college football career ended Nov. 23 in the rain and mud at Humboldt State.

Quarterback Rich Strasser has thrown his final pass for SF State. The bus ride back from Arcata, long enough in the best of times, was doubly frustrating for him after another game the Gators should have won.

Strasser, NCAC Offensive Player of the Year and all-league quarterback, finished the season with 250 completions of 452 passes for 3,317 yards and 20 touchdowns.

He also finished number one in total offense for the NCAA Division II. None of this makes the aftermath easier to swallow.

"It didn't really hit me until after the game, on the ride home," said Strasser, who's since put a Thanksgiving at home between himself and the inevitable letdown.

Coach Vic Rowen calls him the best all-around quarterback to ever play at SF State.

"I have a lot of sentimental feeling about the kid," said Rowen. "He's a great leader, more by example than anything he does vocally."

Strasser came out of Burroughs High School in Burbank with big numbers and a league championship his senior year. Many college coaches overlooked him because he's not as tall as many successful quarterbacks.

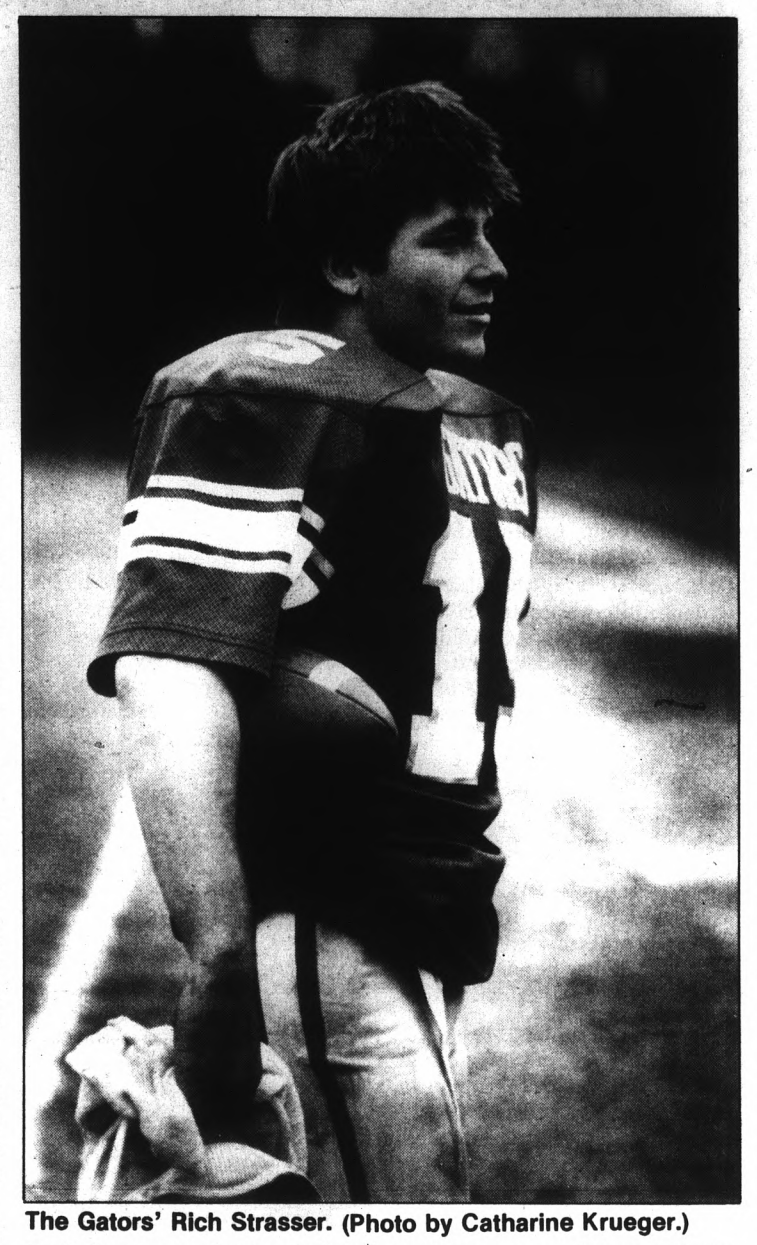
Many coaches have been kicking themselves since. Strasser proved over and over that a slingshot arm and the ability to read complex defenses are more important than size.

Rowen and the San Francisco backdrop convinced Strasser to bring his talent north.

"The difference between Coach Rowen and other coaches is that he doesn't bullshit you," Strasser said. "He tells you what's on his mind...a lot of coaches tell you what you want to hear."

Strasser also heard horror stories about big-time football from his brother Dave, who went to South Carolina on a full-ride scholarship. He was immediately converted from defensive end to down lineman.

"It was like a business. They owned him," recalls Strasser. From 7 a.m. workouts to steroid pushing, football was not quite a game there.



The Gators' Rich Strasser. (Photo by Catharine Krueger.)

"They really screwed up his mind. He said the pressure was remarkable at times."

Strasser was redshirted his freshman year at SF State, but was pressed into action after five games because the starting quarterback was injured. "I wish now I'd stayed on redshirting...I'd have one more year to play," he said wistfully.

Rowen also regrets the move, but said, "At that point in time, we had no choice in the matter.

"If he had another year to play, he would really astound people."

Strasser split signal-calling duties with another player during his sophomore year, then won the job outright last season.

This season Strasser has bedeviled defenses and thrilled football fans with his take-no-prisoners style, but walks through the SF State campus anonymously. Few fellow students realize the sour stomachs he has given opposing coaches this fall.

Sadly, complete career statistics are unavailable, but Rowen thinks Strasser is the all-time leading passer at SF State.

If anyone had an excuse to get the big head, it's Strasser, but he remains a down-to-earth, regular guy. He's dealt with the pressure situations in football season after season, and prefers the calm approach to big games.

"My mom would say, 'What makes this game different from any other? Are you going to die if you lose?'

"I don't get too intense about anything."

The Gators had a big season in the making, but it disintegrated after the debacle at UC Davis and subsequent home-field loss to Santa Clara.

"Our biggest problem was we had no depth...some guys felt that since there was no one behind them, they didn't have to put out all the time.

"We kind of fell apart [after Santa Clara]. We drifted away from each other," Strasser said with a trace of regret in his voice.

He praised his fine corps of receivers. "It was a pleasure working with them. It was tough losing Ron [Teitel, injured early in the season]. I still think he would have had 50 catches."

However, Jaime Hill stepped in and made first-team all-league. "He improved the most," Strasser said.

There were also kind words for the offensive line. "They improved tremendously over last year. I have all the respect in the world for them—they were always outsized, but did a good job."

Though he is among the best quarterbacks in the nation, the possibility of going pro is slim.

Strasser can take a hit like a 6-foot-4 player and rarely has passes tipped, but he is locked into the stereotype: 5-foot-9, from a small school that finished just 3-6-1 this season. His playing days could be over.

Don't bet the farm.

"I think I could do a lot better than people think. I'm not worried about being able to play—I know I can."

He is realistic, though. "I'm not looking for scouts to come banging down my door. It depends on a coach willing to take a chance. I've just got to sit and wait."

Meanwhile, there's two more semesters of school before the 22-year-old gets his degree in advertising. He's made the transition from star to student, with help from a Thanksgiving pick-up football game with old friends in Burbank.

"It was weird. I saw friends who had played football in high school—now I'm one of them. I thought, 'What am I going to do with all my time?'"

Fifteen years of football thrills and spills are behind him. Strasser has no regrets about playing at a school where dynamic sports accomplishments are virtually ignored.

He got the job done without fanfare. "I'd rather have people who know me come up to me [on campus]...I'd rather have them know me as Rich Strasser."

Sports

Lopez league MVP — Gators honored

Sandy Lopez, known for her thunderous spikes and impossible digs, was named volleyball Player of the Year in the NCAC on Monday. She is the first SF State player to receive the honor.

"Statistically, this was a banner year for her," said coach Kathy Argo. Lopez led the league in kill shots. "Just as important was the team leadership and court presence she brought to the court this year. She's a very poised person, and that carried over into her play."

Sophomore Colleen Murphy made Honorable Mention.

In football, Rich Strasser [see story at left] wasn't the only Gator honored. Tight end Jim Jones, tackle Bud Carson, wide receiver Jaime Hill and defensive end Ed Critchett made first-team all-league. Guard David Russell, linebacker Joe Lopiparo and defensive back Rob Faber were named to the Second Team. Wide receiver Kenji Martin and defensive back Frank Acevedo made Honorable Mention.

In soccer, senior Millie Dydasco was named to the First Team, All-NCAC. Nicole Bowler and Nancy McGovern made the Second Team, while TerryLynn McDonald, Leslie Lacko, Heifara Ortas and Lisa Hadley were Honorable Mention.

For the men, Mark Ornelaz and Goge Johl were All-NCAC; Matt Willman, John Shanley and Victor Alfaro were Second Team; and Andrew McMorran and Robert Campoy made Honorable Mention.

Football referee talks back

NFL referee Burl Toler doesn't care much for games played in wintery conditions. He remembers one vividly, a 1981 playoff game in Cincinatti.

"It was 15 below zero, and the wind chill was 59 below. On the plane ride home, my fingers were swollen," said Toler, who spoke to Prof. Jules Tygiel's Century of Sports class on Monday.

"I lost all my fingernails and got new skin on my fingers from the frostbite." The panty hose he got from the Bengals' trainer could only protect so much.

Toler, 57 and a USF graduate, has been a head linesman for 21 years, and was the league's first black referee in 1965. It was no big deal to him.

"I'd been in situations before that when I was the only black man—never had any problems,"

said the former All-Coast player for the Dons.

Toler dismissed those who feel refs can't do the job unless they are full-time, without regular jobs during the week.

"Critics are looking for someone who can walk on water. I don't think they'll find him," he said.

"You can't take the human element out of the game."

Refs must keep track of every call they make, and be ready to defend them when the league office reviews game films that capture the game from many angles. A report card is tallied up at the end of the season.

"Every year someone leaves because of poor performance," he said. "If you have a good report card, you get to work post-season games."

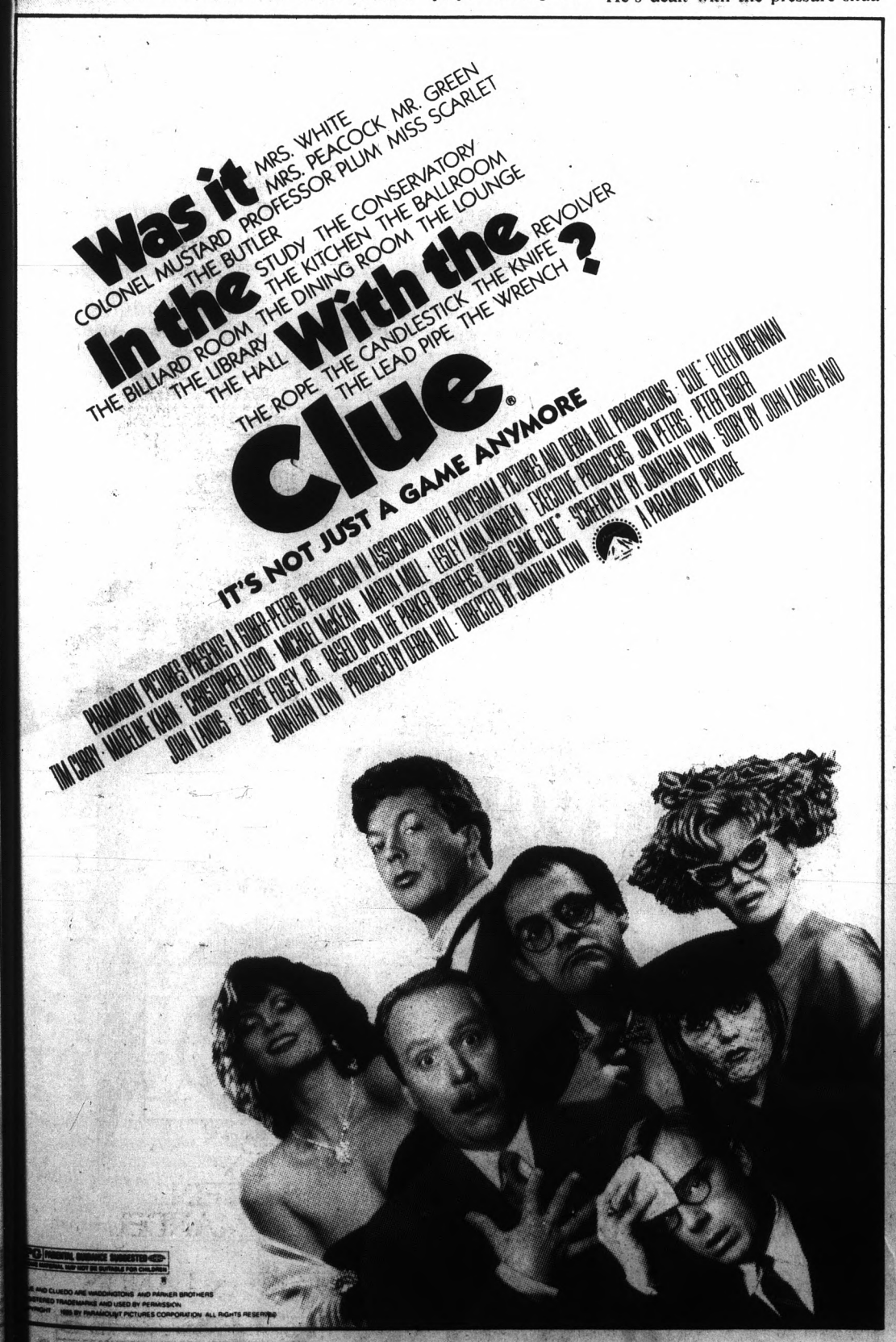
Toler has received 19 playoff assignments in his twenty years, including three Super Bowls.

One student asked if Bill Walsh is a whiner. Toler took the diplomatic approach: "He's a very concerned coach."

It's a very enjoyable sidelight, said the head of Certified Services for the SF Community College District. "They treat you first-class all the way, and they expect you to do a first-class job."

What's a good game, from a ref's standpoint?

"The fans and viewers do not know who the officials were."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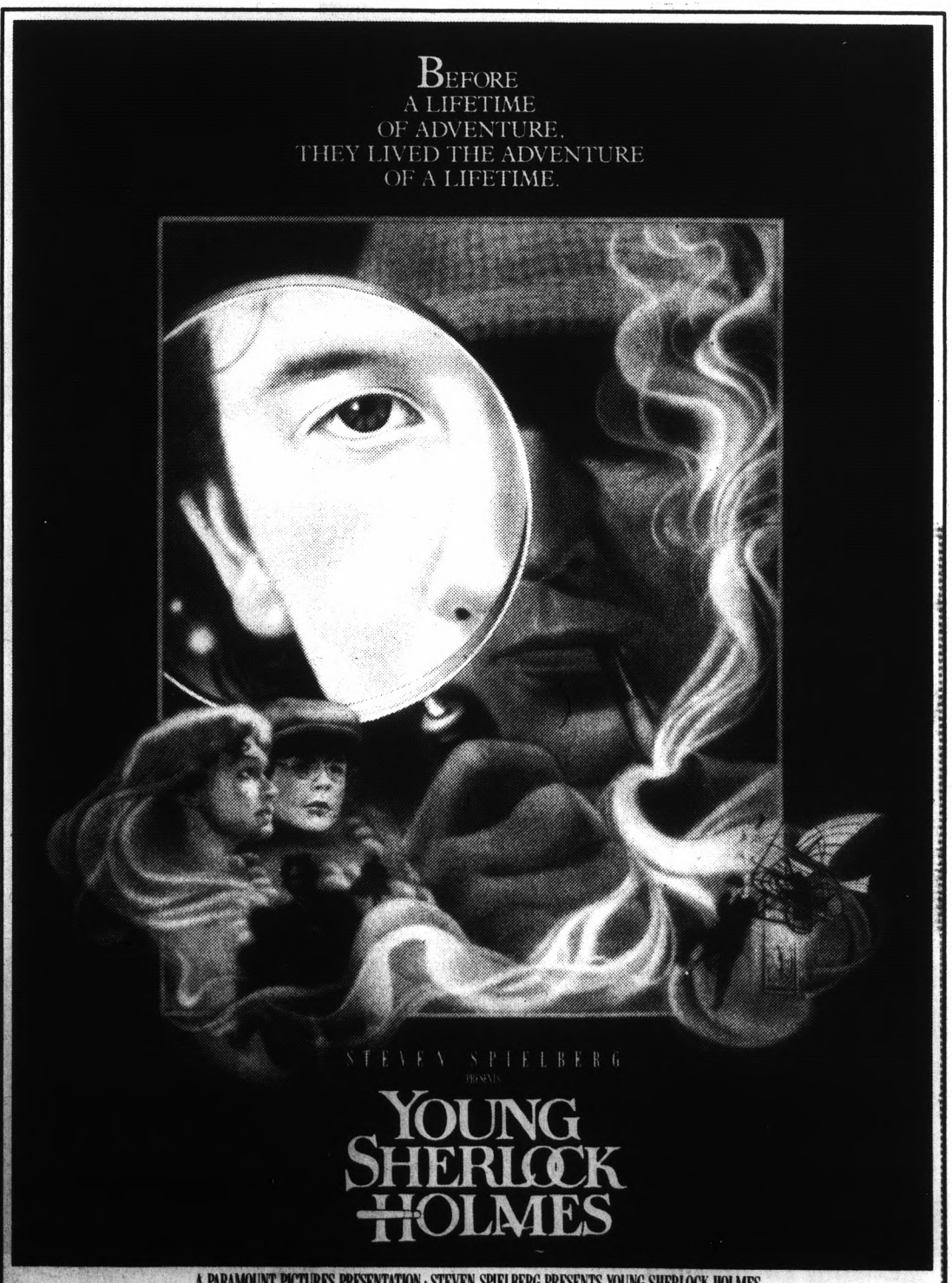
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A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

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Foster—

Continued from page 1

with constant care-givers," she said.

The minimum requirements to be a therapeutic foster parent are one year's paid experience working with emotionally disturbed children and college-level training in a mental health field, Cooper said.

The Andersons more than qualify. Sharon, 27, has been working with emotionally disturbed children and adults since she was in high school.

And Tom, 32, a 1977 SF State graduate, worked at the campus Child Care Center while he was a student, and at an emergency shelter for abused children and in group homes after he graduated.

The children placed in therapeutic homes have been seriously abused or neglected, Anderson said. They tend to be either extemely aggressive or extremely passive. Typical behavior includes fighting, letting other kids beat up on them, lying, throwing temper tantrums, and exhibiting quick mood changes, suicidal behavior, and self-destructive behavior.

"They mirror how they have been treated," she said. "These kids need to learn how to trust again, how to know that their needs are going to get satisfied, how to have appropriate behavior. They need to learn how to function in a family.

"For most kids this is the first time and, maybe the only time, they see a really good family. The results have been amazing .... These kids really bloom in these homes."

Cooper agrees.

"We feel that it's more effective (than institutional care) because, of all the children who have been in the program over the years, very few have failed. Out of the 40, three or four have not made it in the therapeutic home placements," she said.

In addition to being better for the children than institutional care, therapeutic foster homes save taxpayers money.

The cost to keep one child in a San Francisco institution in 1984 ranged from $2,518 to $4,000 per month per child, Cooper said. This compares with about $1,600 in a therapeutic foster home.

While regular foster parents receive only a stipend to cover the child's expenses, therapeutic foster parents receive the stipend plus a salary of $1,200 per month. Despite this, the Department of Social Services does not have as many therapeutic parents as it needs.

"It's very difficult to find people to do it. Most of the people who have the kind of background and experience we want and need are able to work a nine-to-five job outside the home and make more money," Cooper said.

"But for some of the people, it works out well. It takes the right person at the right stage of their life."

Access—

Continued from page 1

for managing toxic waste materials have consistently refused to release public information that may be necessary to protect the health of everyone on campus.

According to Norm Bennett, a plumber for Facilities Planning and Operations, a pump, which has been broken for more than a month, caused the repeated flooding of the toxic waste storage site in the Old Science building. Bennett said no campus officials have told workers whether their health could have been jeopardized by cleaning up the flooded area.

There are at least three hazardous waste storage sites on campus that contain the university's toxic residue before it is hauled away to a dump. The storage sites contain the chemicals and contaminated solid wastes that federal and state governments consider "extremely hazardous."

There are two storage sites in the basement of the Old Science building and one in the Arts and Industry building.

The materials include solvents, organic chemicals, degreasers and paints used by students and faculty in many science and art classes.

Exposure to many of the substances may cause cancer, damage the liver and kidneys and/or result in damage to the nervous system.

University officials may be in violation of the California Public Records Act (California Government Code 6250), which states, "access to information concerning the conduct of the people's business is a fundamental and necessary right of every person in the state."

Despite a written request by the Phoenix for information such as the number and location of all hazardous waste storage sites on campus; whether there is a written policy regarding hazardous waste disposal; and any records of hazardous waste related accidents on campus, none of this information has been made available.

Requests for information have also been made to Sheila McClear, director of public affairs; Capt. Malcolm Vaughan, Department of Public Safety; and Alfred Leidy, vice president.

Am always a perfectly safe man to tell any dirt to as it goes in one ear and out my mouth.

Ernest Hemingway

Cheating—

Continued from page 2

exam. In English, you probably have essays and written papers," said Westwood.

During his year and a half as coordinator of student discipline, Westwood has seen a variety of cheating techniques. He said a student once tried to smuggle an exam from a teacher's mailbox.

In another case this semester, a student tried to enter a faculty member's office by offering money to a custodian.

Students often cheat because of the pressures around them, he said.

"There is a tremendous amount of pressure to do well, especially if you want to go on to grad school or finish your degree.

"I encourage faculty, if they are absolutely sure someone cheated, to refer it to me. I think that it is the only way to stop cheating or to curtail it," said Westwood.

Chemicals

Continued from page 1

tional supplies for the Creative Arts department.

McGough said the department's hazardous wastes consist mostly of solvents and paints.

The university has been sending its dangerous wastes to Casmalia since January 1981, according to permits for the disposal of extremely hazardous waste on file at the Toxic Waste Control Unit for the state EPA.

"We are probably a very small part of all of the hazardous waste around," said McGough.

The Casmalia site reportedly received 120,000 tons of hazardous wastes in 1983.

Although SF State's contribution to the site may seem relatively small, Toxic Waste Control Unit Chief Hoenig said, "You're asking for big trouble if you transport hazardous wastes anywhere outside of your own backyard."

Under the federal Resources Conservation and Recovery Act, Nov. 8, 1985 was the deadline for all hazardous waste sites to demonstrate that they are in compliance with new groundwater monitoring requirements.

The main indicator of hazardous waste leaks are monitoring wells, drilled at strategic points both on and off-site.

According to the Toxics Assessment Group report, none of the 14 extremely hazardous waste dumps in California (including Casmalia) is presently in compliance with the new groundwater monitoring requirements.

Anything for a soap fix

By Karen Wong

The clock strikes 12, and I run out of the Humanities building, down to the Student Union, up the stairs and into Pyramid I. The six couches in the center are occupied; the five couches against the wall are occupied; so I sit on the floor.

It's time for my favorite soap opera, "All My Children." I like the show so much that I will sit in a crowded room with 150 strangers who are seated on couches, chairs, stairs and floor.

We get so involved in the show that we laugh, clap and groan at the appropriate scenes. The buffoons who yammer during the tender scenes are promptly told to "SHUT UP!"

Soap addicts used to annoy me; it's hard to believe I've become one. I used to think addicts were middle-aged housewives who watched soaps because they didn't have anything worthwhile to do. I figured they fantasized about these soap stars because their love lives were uneventful.

Well, I'm not a bored, middle-aged housewife. I feel that I do some worthwhile things, and I know my love life is eventful enough for me.

I suppose the fascination for me is that these characters have more problems than I. Heck, if they can solve their problems, so can I. For one whole hour, I can forget my petty problems and laugh at their improbable predicaments.

Only one hour isn't long enough anymore. Like many other addicts, my tolerance has increased. I occasionally watch "General Hospital" at 2 p.m., and I regularly watch the nighttime soaps "Dallas" and "Dynasty."

If, for some reason, I can't watch my soap at the prescribed time, I will videotape it. I think this is just great because I don't have to deal with a noisy room full of strangers.

If I'm in really dire straits and no tape is around, I can dial a number on my phone and get a summary of what happened on the latest episode of "All My Children." Unfortunately, that costs about 50 cents.

On those rare occasions when I don't get to watch the soaps for a whole week, I read the week's summary of the soap operas on Saturday in my local newspaper, The West County Times. But hearing or reading a summary isn't the same as watching; that's like giving a starving dog a rubber bone.

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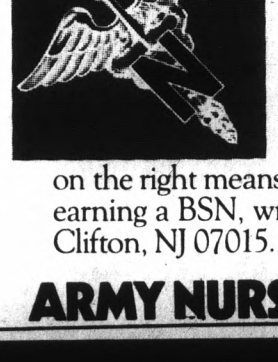

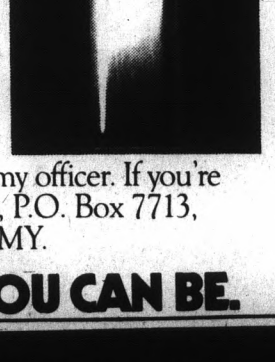

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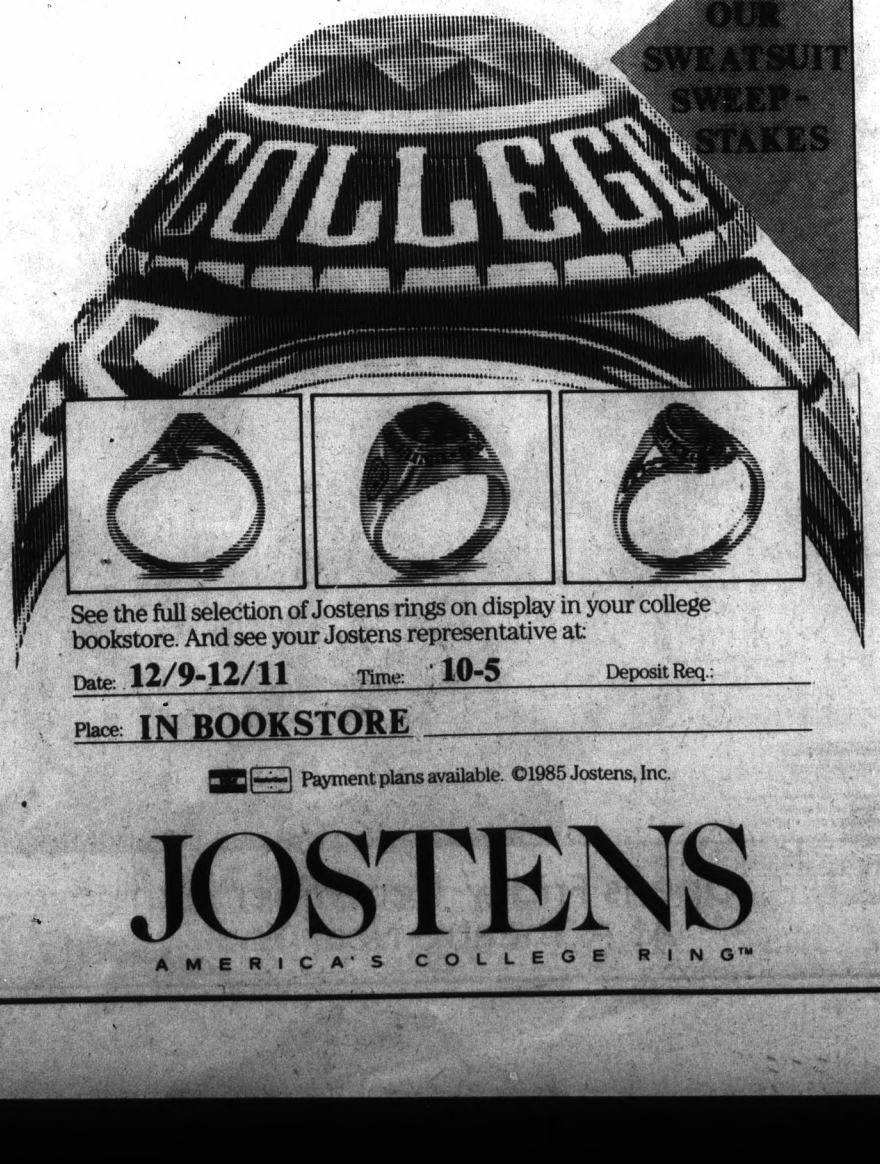

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K. Tyler Phelps, KSFS program director. (Photo by Mary Glass.)

KSFS

Continued from page 1

ecause there is more opportunity radio for the inexperienced stu-ent who is trying to find a place ere."

To obtain and operate on a radio equency, KSFS must go through e expensive and time-consuming rocess of getting licensed by the ederal Communications Commis-on and conforming to federal pro-amming and equipment stan-rds.

Lack of money helped shoot own a 1957 proposal to obtain an CC license for the newly started RTG radio station. During the 60s, Associated Students sup-orted the station and used it to ex-ess their views through dorm ookups. When then-president S.I. ayakawa froze the Associated udents bank account during the 68-69 campus strike, the station as forced to close for more than a mester.

Money shortages and lack of ad-inistrative support also stifled at-mpts to improve campus access to e station. Neither the dorms nor e administration has been willing put up the money to repair the d dorm wiring system or create a w one.

According to broadcasting stu-dent John Hirsch, who researched the history of SF State's radio station, the money to license and start up the station, about $50,000, was approved by the Broadcast Communication Arts department and the School of Creative Arts in 1972.

But former president Paul Romberg neither signed nor rejected the proposal, in effect creating a pocket veto.

"It looked like it came down to the signature on the proposal and the responsibility that came with it. No one was willing to take the responsibility for the station," Hirsch said.

About that time, Viacom Cablevision came into San Francisco and KSFS obtained cable access on Viacom's public access channel 35.

"Viacom was a much cheaper, easier way out. I don't know who approached whom first, but the broadcast proposal was dropped after Viacom came along," Hirsch said.

Although some broadcast personnel thought Viacom would be an interim measure while the station tried to obtain an FCC license, nothing has changed in 13 years.

To "tune in" to KSFS, a resident must purchase the Viacom service and switch to Channel 35 during KSFS's irregular broadcast hours. Some Viacom subscribers have "FM splitters" that allow KSFS to be tuned into the radio.

It is hard to tell how many of Viacom's 18,000 subscribers are tuned to KSFS, but Phelps said the numbers are low. He noted that the station has given away concert tickets before with no one calling in to win them.

"We can't even get sponsorships and start making some of our own money because advertisers don't know if anyone is listening," Phelps said. "They tell us, 'Come back when you have an audience.'"

Few students questioned had ever heard of KSFS. The few that had heard of the station said they had given up trying to tune it in. "How can it be a radio station if it's on a cable?" asked geology student Ben Carter.

When Creative Arts Chair August Coppola came to SF State last fall, he said he wanted to improve the campus radio station.

"To me, broadcasting means radio and television," Coppola said in November. "Real broadcasts are desirable because experience is the most important element in broadcasting."

Coppola said there is a good chance KSFS can become an on-air station when it comes up with consistent and imaginative programming.

"There are still ways to get on the air," Coppola said. "I authorized (KSFS advisor) Rick Houlberg to study the alternatives. Imagination is important now; money can be found."

Houlberg said that it is very unlikely that KSFS will get a broadcast frequency in the near future unless they can overcome the problems of having no open frequencies to use and a lack of university willingness to hold an FCC license, but he added that this is not necessarily bad.

"Having a good radio curriculum is more important than having a frequency," he said. "We are currently revamping the curriculum because that's where students learn the most."

Meanwhile, the station is working on educational alternatives to live broadcasts. The number of disc jockeys was reduced this semester from 35 to nine to provide more consistent programming so more time could be spent on perfecting taped radio shows.

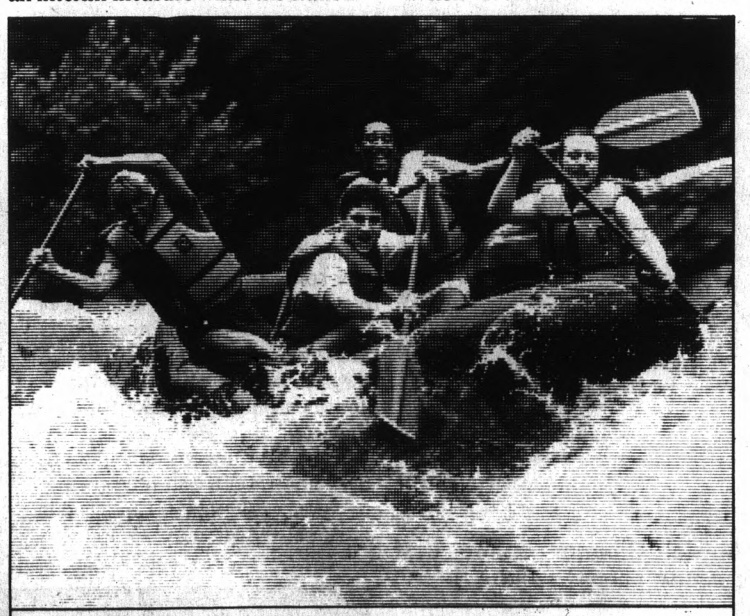
"We got tired of banging our heads against the wall," said Ingles. "Now we're working on quality programming, hoping that people will see that quality."

Happy anniversary Transfer magazine

The staff of Transfer, SF State's literary magazine, is celebrating the publications 50th edition with a reception on Dec. 11 from 4 to 8 p.m. in the University Club.

Contributors Stan Rice, Robert Peterson, Toni Graham, Thomas Sanchez, Martha Nichols and John High will read from their works.

The event is open to the public.



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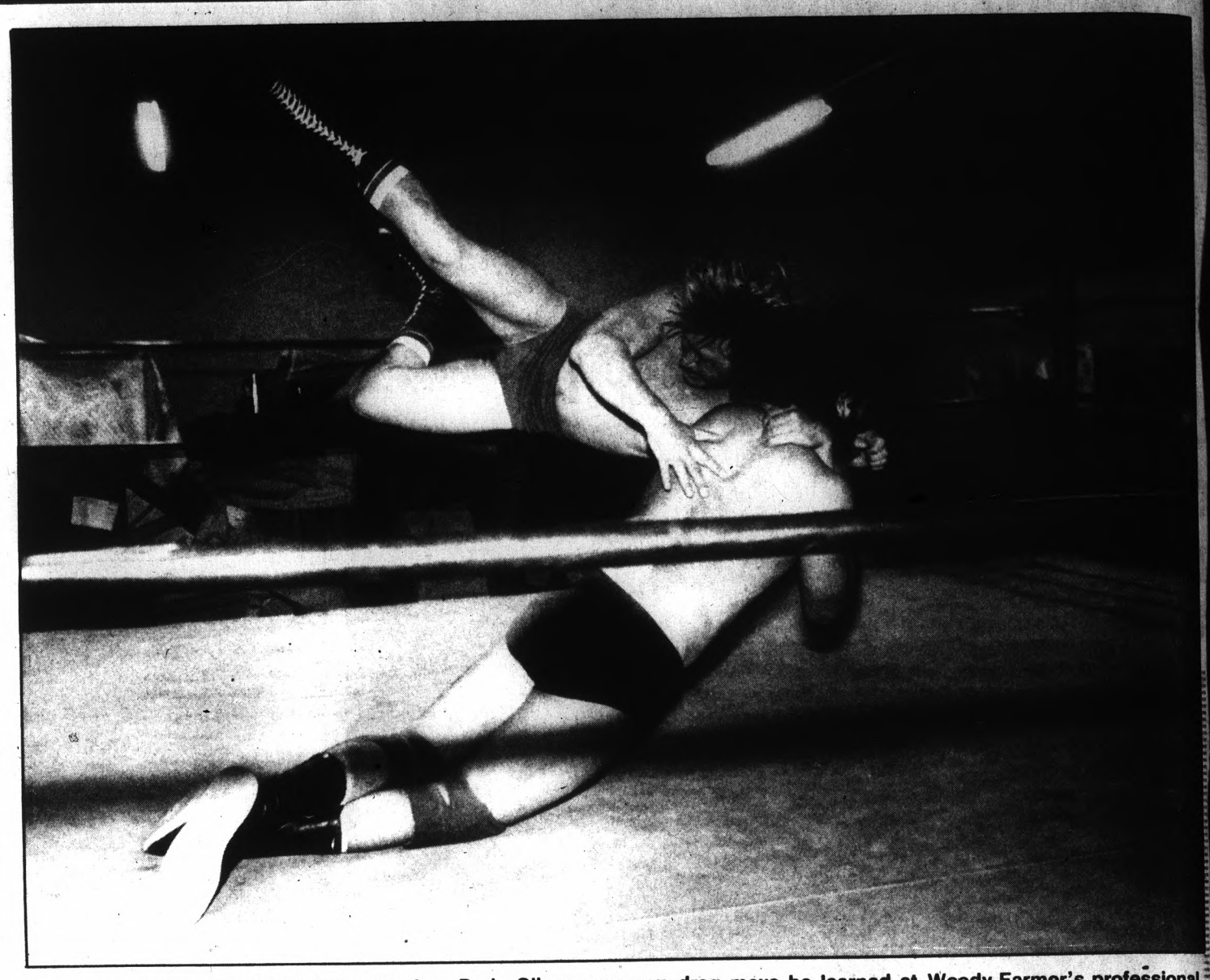
ORIGINAL DEFECTIVE

Backwords

Hard knocks on the road to wrestle mania



Rex Farmer (bottom) 'shows' fellow student Boris Gibanov an arm drag move he learned at Woody Farmer's professional wrestling school in Hayward.

Muscle meets muscle. Two titans grapple, pushing and struggling against each other's enormous weight until one is sent thundering to the ground. Class has just begun.

In a Hayward warehouse that is shared by his piano-moving company, professional wrestling champion Woody Farmer runs a nighttime school for pro wrestlers.

"It takes a professional to teach a professional," Farmer said, with a trace of a Virginia accent, during a recent class session. "Trouble is that not too many of them teach."

For $2,000, wrestlers who meet Farmer's high standards are put through an intensive six-month course designed to prepare men for the wrestling ring.

Although Farmer has encouraged women to join his school, none have signed up yet. His secretary, Kathy Kearney, said women are in great demand in the business and would have a good chance of succeeding.

"We encourage women to sign up," she said. "It's easier to get them into wrestling because they don't have to build their bodies as much."

The course includes weight training, a diet plan and, of course, a lot of wrestling.

"Don't you rest yet," Farmer told his 214-pound son Rex and his 190-pound opponent Boris Gibanov, who were having it out in the ring. "You don't look tired to me."

"The first weeks of this are really brutal," said Kearney. "The students bleed a lot because their skin isn't calloused and it wears off on the mat."

Not many applicants to the school meet Farmer's standards. The wrestlers must be fairly big and have a desire to win that will overcome the pain they will endure during the next six months. They must also have the stamina to last through matches that may go as long as 30 minutes.

It takes a certain type of man to be a professional wrestler.

He must be big.

Farmer's students range from about 190 to 270 pounds. "Heavyweight" division goes from 198 to 240 pounds; "super heavyweight" starts at 240 pounds. Wrestlers from the two divisions can also compete against each other.

"A big part of the training happens at the dinner table," said Farmer, who is proud of his son's success in gaining nearly 20 pounds in two weeks. "We put them on a high-protein, high-vitamin diet as part of the plan."

A wrestler must be strong.

Last year Farmer, 49, carried a piano on his back up San Francisco's Lombard Street to raise money to fight muscular dystrophy. Although he doesn't expect such feats from his students, they have to work their bodies with a weight set that consists of little more than long bars and heavy iron discs. The students affectionately call it "the dungeon."

"None of this is fat," said Gibanov, slapping his chest. "You can't carry it around with you in the ring."

A wrestler must be tough.

As well as developing a thick hide to keep from bleeding, the wrestler must have thick bones, too.

"I've broken 20 bones in my career," Farmer said. "The people who don't think it's real should think about that."

All the students at the workout have broken some bones in the ring. The first time Rex wrestled, he broke three ribs, but he finished the match.

A wrestler must want to win.

Farmer said that more than 100 people tried to enroll in the school, but he has accepted just 14 because he wants only the best to carry the Farmer name that he's built over 20 successful years.

"People don't usually realize what it takes to make it in wrestling," he said. "They think they can be a champ right away when a lot of them can't take the punishment in training."

Professional wrestling has become much more popular during the last few years. The year-round sport is a test of strength and endurance with some theatrics thrown in for show. It is nothing like Olympic wrestling. Clothesline shots, body slams and knee drops are common professional wrestling moves.

"There's supposed to be rules," Farmer said with a shrug, "but there's only one referee and he can't do a lot. Besides, people love to see a little bit of cheating. It makes a good show."

According to Kearney, many wrestlers, including Farmer's students, succeed at a full-time wrestling career. The more successful ones can earn "six digits" while lesser competitors earn "more than the average income." Farmer said the success of a wrestler depends on how well the name is known.

Wrestlers send photos and resumes to promoters in different areas. Farmer said the promoters want to see what kind of shape the wrestler is in and determine what kind of a crowd he can draw.

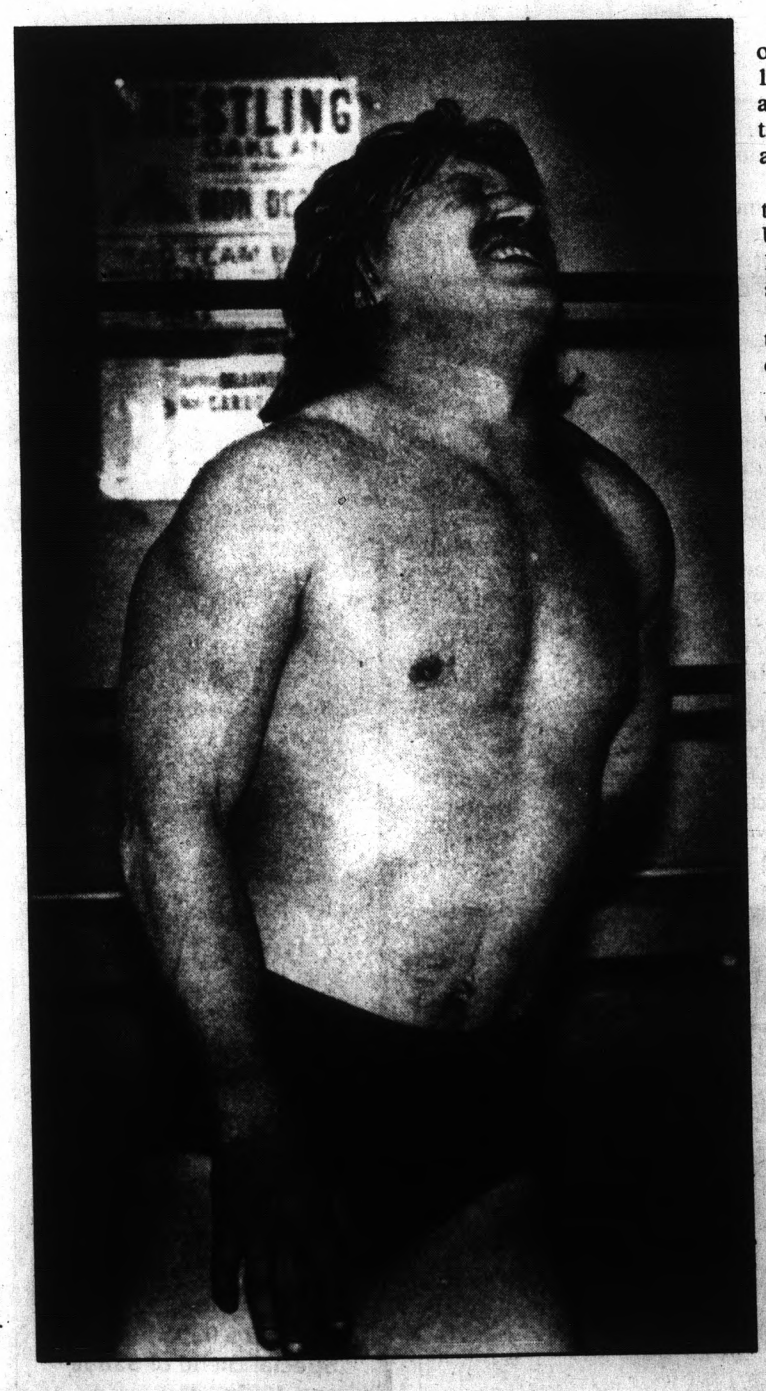
Several recent wrestling movies have brought the sport to a larger audience. Pop star Cyndi Lauper's sponsorship of world champ Hulk Hogan and Mr. T, and Hogan's appearance in "Rocky III" have also created new attention.

But is it real, many ask.

"The audience wants to see a show," said Kearney, "so a lot of guys ham it up in the ring. But I see what happens to them in the ring as well as in practice and that (injury) is real."

Wrestlers have to be licensed with the wrestling commission in each state where they compete after passing a rigorous physical examination. In addition, the wrestler must take a blood pressure test before each match.

"If he doesn't pass, he goes back home with nothing," Farmer said.



Farmer's long career in and out of the ring started in the Army in 1965 when he weighed 165 pounds and "looked like a stick." He was trained by then-greats Ray Stevens and Pepper Gomez.

In 1968 and 1969 Farmer held the World Wrestling Federation United States title. In 1970 and 1971 he held the Texas championship. The federation rates the top 10 wrestlers in different areas and they have a wrestle-off for the championships.

In California, Farmer has gained and lost the title several times. Occasionally he was unable to defend the title because he was in another part of the country. Currently though, Farmer holds the title and isn't ready to give it up.

During his career, Farmer has often been willing to use his strength and celebrity to benefit children's causes. Besides carrying the piano for muscular dystrophy, Farmer recently wrestled "Evening Magazine's" Richard Hart for a Boys Club exhibition and benefit. During a Nebraska radio program, he got "an entire truckload" of toys donated to needy children.

"Anything for the kids," he said.

Outside the ring, Farmer likes to demonstrate his skills with amazing feats of strength and toughness.

One photograph on his warehouse wall shows Farmer lying on a bed of three-inch nails, while someone with a sledge hammer splits a refrigerator-sized block of concrete that is laying on his chest. Another photograph shows Farmer pounding nails through boards with his hands and then pulling them out with his fingers.

Next, he wants to tie ropes on two motorcycles and hold them together while they try to drive in different directions.

At this stage of his career, Farmer spends as much time in front of the camera as he does on the canvas.

He recently appeared in a pizza commercial threatening the purist cooks for not using artificial ingredients. "Evening Magazine" and "Segment Two" recently featured him, and he has been contacted by ABC's "20/20" program.

Farmer will also appear in two wrestling movies, "Grunt" and "Savage Sunday," due to come out this month.

"In 'Grunt,' there's a great slow-mo of me being thrown out of the ring onto a cement floor," he said. "It should be a hot movie."

But Farmer is not ready to give up his wrestling career yet. His part-time schedule includes a trip to Juneau, Alaska, soon and possibly other matches this year.

"Whenever there is enough money, off he goes," said Kearney.

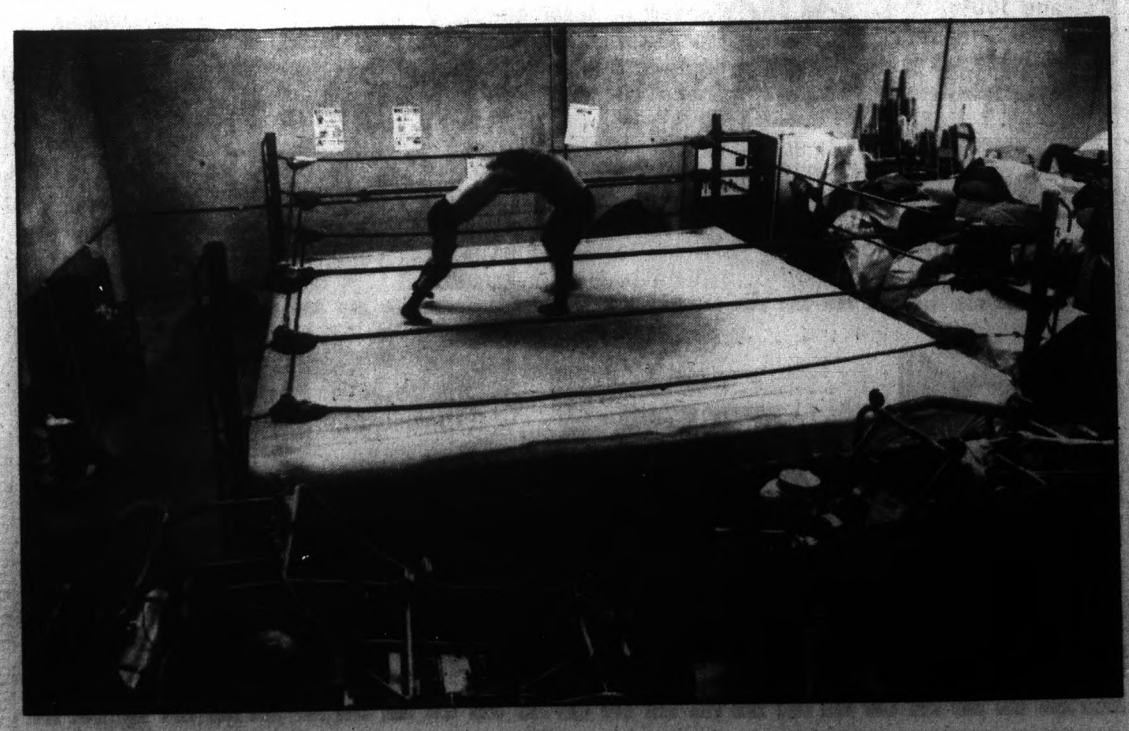
With his wife, Sue, and his sons, Rex and Matt, Farmer lives a life that is anything but settled. When he's not wrestling, performing or raising money for charity, he builds and races Volkswagen-powered tube-framed dune buggies across desert terrain.

Farmer said wrestlers are not mean people.

"Most wrestlers are very quiet, very gentle people who never want to get into fights," Farmer said, with a playful smile. "You have to watch where you go, though. Some punk will know that you're a wrestler and want to start something. All you can do then is break a chair over his back and leave the place."

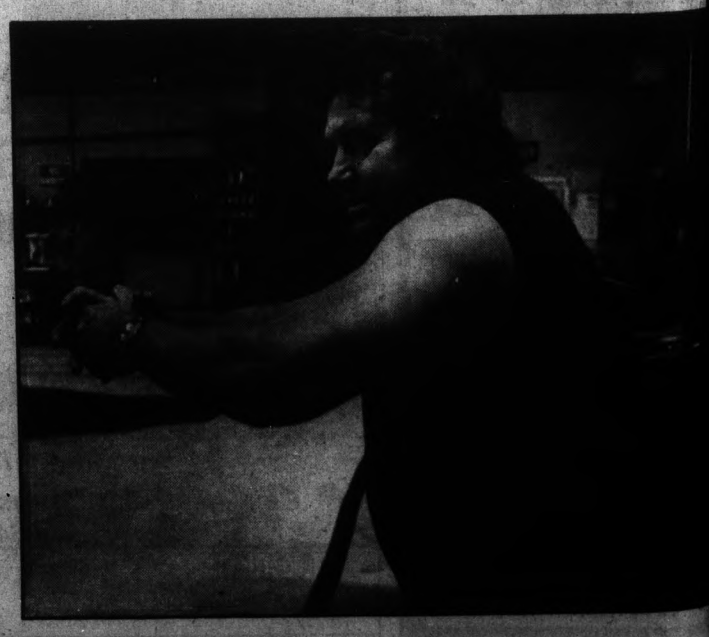
While Farmer can turn a man into a wrestler, he said that no one can make a champion.

"If a guy comes in and says, 'Make me a champion,' I'll tell him, 'I can't do that, you have to make yourself a champion.' "



Above: Gibanov shows that training can be painful.

Left: The practice ring occupies one corner of Farmer's piano-moving company warehouse where he also builds the Volkswagen-powered dune buggies (foreground).



Right: 'Don't you rest yet. You don't look tired to me,' professional wrestler Woody Farmer tells his students.

Story by Ross Larsen

Photos by John Howes